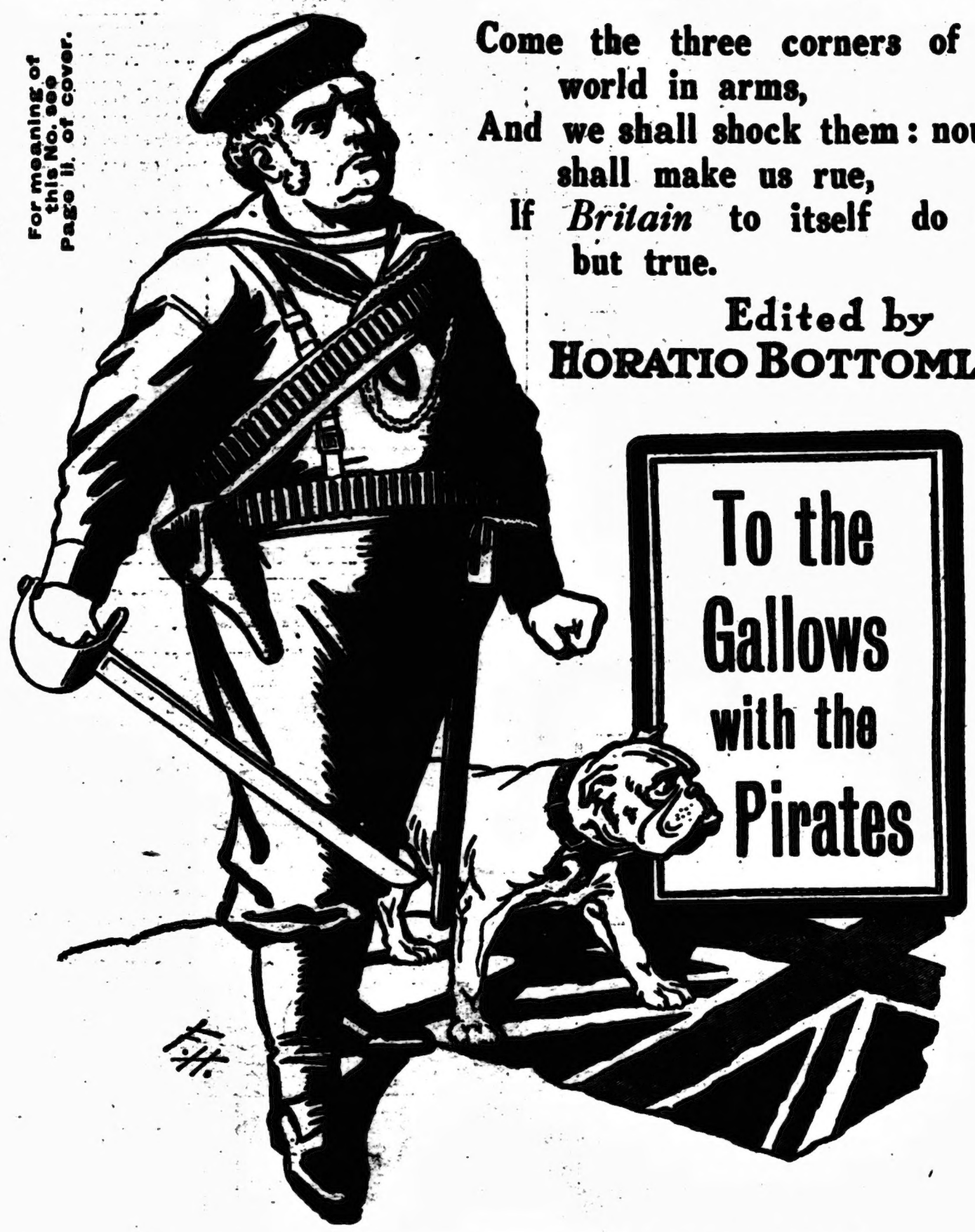
ARE YOU RELATED TO A SOLDIER OR SAILOR? See page 6.

JOHN BULL

Vol. XVIII. No. 459 | SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1915. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page 11. of cover.



Come the three corners of the world in arms,
And we shall shock them: nought shall make us rue,
If *Britain* to itself do rest but true.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

CIRCULATION OVER ONE MILLION COPIES WEEKLY.

OUR STUPENDOUS FREE INSURANCE (See Page 24.) If you desire to avoid the necessity of filling up this weekly coupon you may sign the Newsagent's Order Form on page 24, and forward the duplicate to us and you will be *permanently insured* during such period as this Insurance scheme remains in force

SPECIAL NOTE.—If you do not make use of the Newsagent's Form on page 24, fill in this form and carefully retain it. In the event of a claim it must be forwarded to the Editor of "John Bull" within seven days of the date of the accident.

GREAT WAR INSURANCE COUPON.

(Insuring against ALL War Risks, as specified on page 24.)

Name of Insured..... *Address*.....

Age next Birthday.....

NOMINATION FORM.

In the event of my being injured or killed on land within the British Isles, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate first myself, or in the event of my Death:—

Name..... *Address*.....

to receive such sum as may become payable under the terms of the Insurance Scheme set out in "JOHN BULL."

This coupon must be signed by the Insured—or, in the case of children under twelve years of age, by their parents or legal guardians—and is available for London and twelve-mile radius till 8 a.m. Wednesday, March 24, and all other parts of the British Isles till 8 a.m. Thursday, March 25.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production **within seven days of publication** (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done

JOHN BULL PEN COUPON. Value 1d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 2/6 and loose 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a John Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 13 Coupons, and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept., "John Bull" Long Acre, London, W.C. March 20, 1915.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib

The following have sent in correct claims:—
HERBERT WALKER, 16, Arnold Street, Birkby, Huddersfield. 403,289. February 27th.
B. WATSON, 15, Goldney Road, Paddington, W. 843,156. February 27th.
NORMAN SMITH, 73, Hale Road, Altrincham. 938,029. February 27th.
W. ROBERTS, 49, Hill Street, Maryhill, Glasgow. 501,675. February 27th.
MRS. I. JENKINS, 60, Clyde Street, Pontymister. 062,166. February 27th.
W. CLEAVER, Great Gonerby, Grantham. 057, 662. February 27th.
Mrs. HAITHWAITE, 2, Varvill Court, Micklegate, York. 790,542. February 27th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 13th:—

009980	189086	306383	590432	839756
016862	198587	389429	621842	856798
036459	213331	414228	658095	869124
054124	217847	441059	668385	900413
082730	232607	462054	683978	953721
121276	241637	499288	700380	977100
122357	266886	521738	715640	A001382
143721	311240	552507	733026	A024863
164770	316912	556386	765181	A061957
173934	336879	576430	801432	A073471

The A prefixed to a drawn number indicates it is plus a million.
The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published March 24th).

FIRST READ THIS.

If you predict the "Home" Team will win, put in ink a **X** in the Home Column; if you predict the "Away" Team will win, put a **X** in the Away Column. For Draws put a **X** in the Draw Column.

John Bull ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, Mar. 27th.

HOME.	AWAY.	DRAW.	HOME TEAM.		AWAY TEAM.
			Everton	v.	Chelsea
			Bolton Wand.	v.	Sheffield U.
			Aston Villa	v.	Manchester C.
			Bradford	v.	Middlesbro
			Manchester U.	v.	Tottenham H.
			Sheffield W.	v.	West Bromwich A.
			Glossop	v.	Blackpool
			Wolverhampton W.	v.	Barnsley
			Leeds City	v.	Bury
			Clapton O.	v.	Bristol C.
			Arsenal	v.	Huddersfield T.
			Lincoln C.	v.	Birmingham
			Swindon T.	v.	Crystal P.
			Southend U.	v.	Portsmouth
			Queen's Park R.	v.	Luton T.
			Millwall A.	v.	Exeter C.
			Bristol R.	v.	Cardiff C.
			Croydon C.	v.	Brighton and Hove.
			Northampton	v.	West Ham
			Watford	v.	Plymouth A.

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page, and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Name .....

19 *Address* .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

Read Rules Carefully.

NOTE METHOD OF MARKING COUPON.

1. We have adopted the following rules for marking the Entrance Form:—If you predict the Home Team will win, put a **X** in the Home Column; if you give the Away Team to win, put a **X** in the Away Column. For a Draw put a **X** in the Draw Column.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "**John Bull," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.,** mark envelope in top left-hand corner, **Football Contest No. 19,** and send to reach us not later than **Friday, March 26th.**

3. The sum of £1,000 will be paid to the Competitor whose entrance form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given played to a finish on March 27. Should it happen that no entrance form be received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £250 will be paid to the sender of a coupon with one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,000 nor the £250 being won, £50 will be paid to the competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort. No correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted.

5. Any effort on which any alteration has been made will be disqualified.

6. In the event of a tie or ties in this Competition, the £1,000, the £250, or the £50, will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this contest.

8. Scottish readers may enter.

SINGLE-WEEK CONTEST CLOSES FRIDAY, MARCH 26th.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of Competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

H	A	D	TEAMS.
			Everton v. Chelsea
			Bolton v. Sheffield U.
			Aston Villa v. Manchester C.
			Bradford v. Mid lesbro.
			Manchester U. v. Tottenham H.
			Sheffield W. v. W. Bromwich A.
			Glossop v. Blackpool
			Wolver. W. v. Barnsley
			Leeds City v. Bury
			Clapton O. v Bristol C.

H	A	D	TEAMS.
			Arsenal v. Huddersfield T.
			Lincoln C. v. Birmingham
			Swindon T. v. Crystal Palace
			Southend U. v. Portsmouth
			Queen's Pk. R. v. Luton T.
			Millwall A. v. Exeter City
			Bristol R. v. Cardiff C.
			Croydon C. v. Brighton and Hove
			Northampton v. West Ham
			Watford v. Plymouth A.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XVIII. No. 459. Week ending Saturday, March 20th, 1915. One Penny.

LOOK OUT FOR

EVERYWOMAN'S WEEKLY.

No. 1 Out Tuesday Next, March 23.

The Great NEW HOME Journal.

ONE PENNY.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Our Recruiting Campaign.

As already announced, we are devoting the whole week from the 5th to the 10th April, inclusive, to a special Recruiting Campaign in Glasgow. At the time these lines are read in London we shall be completing a series of meetings in Plymouth; on Thursday we are at Walthamstow, and have also arranged to visit the Liverpool Stadium on 31st March.

A Reverend Recruiter.

Following our example, the Rev. A. J. Waldron, Vicar of Brixton, has started upon an active recruiting campaign of his own, and has been engaged during the past week in attacking the north of Ireland. Now then, ye Parliamentary Recruiting Committeemen, *do* get a move on!

Bonar Law's Conversion.

There can be no question about it—the Business Government idea has captured Mr. Bonar Law, as is only natural in the case of a business man. To remove any misunderstanding, however, we desire to state that it is not the fact that we have written his recent speeches.

Coming Round.

We are gradually getting the idea into the head of Mr. Lloyd George, as well. There have been various signs of it for some time, and the latest and most conclusive is his belated announcement that the Government intend—as we suggested weeks ago—to organise the whole engineering community of the country into a combined Business management. "We are on the look-out," says he, "for a strong business man with push and go to carry the thing through." It does not, of course, follow that the politicians will either know a business man if they find him, or the business-like way of dealing with him when they do. For instance, they could have done rather better for the country in the timber trade than by the engagement of the metallurgical Meyer. Truth is, the politician is an unbusiness-like master for a business man, and herein is the plea for a complete Business Government. However, it is evident we are getting on.

The Strenuous Life.

Here is an extract from the *Daily Citizen's* "London Chat" columns:—

> Last night, between seven and midnight, was one of the busiest of my life. First of all I dined at the Hermes Club, then I went on to the Pavilion to hear Mrs. Pankhurst's happy little speech, and from the Pavilion I went to the Alhambra, ending up at the Café Royal.

Not a bad night's work for a representative of Labour in war time!

Sunday Journalism.

Welcome to the *Sunday Pictorial*. It was badly wanted; and—apart, of course, from our own contribution—it is a fine penn'orth. What wonderful men the Harmsworths are!

"No Patched-up Truce."

We desire you to bear these words in mind. They are taken from the manifesto of Messrs. Asquith, Balfour and Lord Rosebery, addressed some time ago to the press. The exact phrase was—"There must be no weakening, no wavering, no patched-up truce that would expose our children to a revival of the German menace—probably in circumstances far more terrible for the Empire than those which face us to-day." Again we say, remember those words. *We have our reason for the reminder.*

The Old Story Once More.

Last week we quoted, apropos of the blockade of Germany, from our speech at Battersea, delivered some weeks before the Government announcement. Here is an extract from the article, "The Only Way," published in our issue of February 6th:—

> Every factory, every foundry that is not turning out munitions of war must be commandeered. We are fighting for our lives now, though the man in the street will not believe it. We will never stop until our troops march in triumph through Berlin, but we demand a square deal for the men who are fighting. . . . We—that is to say, our Governments—never expected such a thing—and we had no army. Now we have to make one. This means a very special effort by British people—but it will be done—*provided every material resource of the nation be utilised.*

In these circumstances we were somewhat amused to observe the following comment of the *Pall Mall Gazette* of March 10th on the War-Workshops Bill:—

> No such proposal has ever been dreamed of before.

Quite right—we were not dreaming.

Generous Grants to relatives of Soldiers and Sailors. See page 6.

Beer or Professional Football?

Those workers on the Clyde may be a terrible lot of drunkards—that is, if Mr. Lloyd George is to be believed; but the critics who so heartily condemn the men should make themselves conversant with the conditions. It may be wise to limit the sale of drink, but those who advocate strong measures in this direction ought to be the last to howl also for the abolition of the healthy pastimes of the workers. There is now an outcry against the continuance of professional football, but the screamers and screechers lose sight of the fact that it is absolutely necessary for men to have legitimate recreation. At least 90 per cent. of those on whom we depend for the production of our armaments have but one recognised recreation—and that is their Saturday afternoon enjoyment of football matches. Forbid the playing of professional football, and what form of popular pastime remains? Only the picture palace and the pub, and the men of metal are scarcely the ones to be attracted to the former. The humorous part of the situation is that the screamers, whilst they would deny the workers their legitimate recreation, will not deny themselves the pleasures of the theatre and the music-hall, and all the time see nothing wrong in amusing themselves with some such fatuous play as "The Psychology of Guinevere Green," or the inane musical comedy, "The Girl with the Gimlet Eye." What is sauce for the squawking geese is sauce for the toiling ganders.

Hull Magistrate and "Alien."

By the law of England all persons born in his Majesty's dominions are British subjects, while children of a British father are British subjects wherever born, married women being deemed to be the subjects of the state of which their husbands are subjects. This being so, we do not understand the decision of Major Judge, a Hull magistrate, in the case of Edward Allen, as reported in the local press. Allen was born near Grimsby, in Lincolnshire, his mother being German and his father Scotch; yet, on being charged with failing to register as an alien enemy, Major Judge fined him £10, with the alternative of 30 days in prison. By what process of reasoning, or what statute of law, we wonder, is Edward Allen an alien enemy—that is to say, a German? Unless there is something in the case the reporter has missed, it is evident Major Judge, J.P., has made a woeful mess of it, and that Allen is no more liable to fine or imprisonment than the magisterial major himself; wherefore it follows that if he has paid the fine it should be immediately repaid to him, and if he is in gaol he should be immediately released.

The *Emden's* Escapades.

A strange story comes to us through some shellback seamen in an Indian port, which, if true, accounts for the accurate knowledge possessed by the German warship *Emden*, now happily scrapped. It is to the effect that suspicion was aroused against an agent of a leading British shipping company, who was supposed to be in wireless communication with the ship. He was about to be arrested when he committed suicide by jumping through a window. We also hear that a wireless operator between India and an important outpost of Empire was caught red-handed and shot. May such condign punishment befall all traitors!

The Pope's All Right.

Some rattle-brained bigot in Toledo (U.S.A.) has sent us a hundredweight of anti-Papal piffle, with quires of blatant balderdash extracted from a local publication, delightfully entitled *The Menace*. Would religious cranks please note that we have no objection to Pope, Parson or Prophet, as such?

The Fat in the Fire.

Whatever may be the ultimate outcome of the row between King Constantine and M. Venizelos, the ablest Minister modern Greece has known, it is not difficult to understand the pro-Germanic tendencies of the Grecian King (who is married to the Kaiser's sister)—and the woman in the case, whether it be love or politics, is never a negligible quantity. During the Balkan War, Constantine gave offence to France by his rather fulsome declaration that he owed everything to the Kaiser; now it looks as though there were a flutter of the conjugal petticoat in the parting between the King and his chief Minister. This may postpone for a time the participation of Greece in the war. Everything, however goes to show that popular opinion will eventually triumph, and that willy-nilly the King will have to cast the lot of Greece with the Allies, whose guns are thundering at the gates of the capital of its ancient enemy.

When Jack is Wed.

We all love Jack, and are owing a lot to him just now, so that if we can do anything to facilitate his earthly felicity it is evident we ought to do it. One of the many things discovered in the course of this war is that Jack cannot even commit matrimony without being put to more expense and trouble than the rest of us when we do a likesome deed. The banns have to be published aboard ship and in the parish where the bride lives, and in that parish the deed has to be done. Under the new Naval Marriages Bill, if Jack cannot get to Mary, Mary will be able to come to port to marry Jack. If it is more convenient for Jack to marry Mary at Liverpool, so be it; if more convenient for Mary to marry Jack at Portsmouth, so be it also; and when they marry we wish them joy, every year a girl or boy, and if one won't do—well, now, when we come to think of it, that is no affair of ours.

The Press.

Who will argue that the press has no power? When it became known in Canada that the gallant Colonel Seely had been appointed to boss the Canadians in the field, the papers raised a howl, and it looked like a right royal row. So much so that the Censor refused to allow the correspondents over there to cable extracts to England. There was a slight breeze in the Commons, too. Here is the sequel, published in frantic haste in the *Gazette*. Canadian appointments among the men in the field—three aides-de-camp on the personal staff, three general staff officers, four brigadier-generals, three brigade majors, six staff captains, and an assistant provost-marshal. If Canada had not made her indignation public it is a salmon to a sprat that none of those appointments would have been made. The Dominion has triumphed. The Maple Leaf for ever!

Canadian Gift Flour.

Recently a Greenwich reader expressed anxiety as to the whereabouts of the Canadian gift flour, and was apparently obsessed by the rumour that it had been "sold to the Co-op." Several other letters have since reached us on the subject from various parts of the country. It seems that as a rule the flour has been sent to local bakers, who turned into it bread, and the loaves were then distributed to the poor. In other cases the local Co-op. has weighed the flour at the request of the Relief Committee, and it has been given away in bags. "I myself," says a Huncoat manager, "have weighed about 1,800 lbs. of flour into 10 lb. and 15 lb. bags, and these have been distributed in this village, which has about 2,000 inhabitants, to those in need of it." Thus is all well, for well is done.

A simple and wise precaution! Fill in our Free War Insurance Coupon.

Touching the Telephone.

We have been asked by several readers to advise them whether the Postmaster-General is justified in disconnecting their telephone service owing to the non-payment of the current subscription under contracts made before the war. In our view, he is not entitled to do so, unless he has first obtained an Order in conformity with the provisions of the Courts (Emergency Powers) Act, as the measure prohibits any person from "resuming or entering into possession of any property or exercising any right of re-entry . . . for the purpose of enforcing the payment or recovery of any sum of money," except after an application to the Court. Seeing that, to judge from the recent circular issued by the Local Government Board, the official interpretation of the Act is that the King himself is prevented from levying any distress for unpaid taxes without such an Order, it seems clear that the Postmaster-General is not entitled to execute arbitrary judgment by re-taking possession of the line which connects the subscriber's telephone with his exchange. We should like to see a test case brought on the point.

A Starvation Bond.

At the commencement of the war, the Remington Typewriter Company thought fit to reduce their staff of travelling agents, and among those thus summarily dismissed was Mr. James Sim, of Edinburgh, who luckily managed to obtain employment with a rival typewriter firm. Thereupon the Remington Company, with almost incredible meanness, sought to oust their old servant from his new berth on the strength of a contract by which Mr. Sim had undertaken not to enter the employment of any competitive concern within 60 miles of the Scottish capital. We gather that, while retaining the right to discharge their agents at a week's notice, the Remington firm has made this unreasonable agreement a primary rule of their service. Very wisely Mr. Sim determined to contest the matter at law, and the Court of Session has at length declared in his favour, holding that the agreement in question was neither reasonable nor necessary for the protection of the Remington interests. Other firms, please note!

No Babies Wanted.

It will interest the Bishop of London, always so enthusiastic concerning the multiplication of other people's babies, to know that the Essex Insurance Committee have been advertising "the joint appointment of a resident caretaker and his wife," without incumbrance, for their new offices. Probably the Insurance Committee have not built any accommodation for babies or prams within the precincts. Even so, we can see embarrassment and difficulty ahead. Do the Committee intend to exact a solemn pledge—and will the Bishop unchain his thunders if they do?—that the successful candidates will not produce any children on the premises, and what is the penalty if under the dispensation of an insistent Providence their quiver becomes full of them? Are they to be evicted for breaking the covenants, or will the Committee widen the premises or build a nursery on the roof? Peradventure the Bishop will be good enough to call at 4, Broad Street Place, E.C., to ascertain.

Those Southampton Summonses.

We understand that an impression is current in Southampton that one of the summonses against Mr. Lewis Hay, to which we recently referred, charged him with a more serious offence than that of common assault, of which he was convicted. The impression that either of the summonses made any graver charge than that of common assault is a misapprehension, which we correct in justice to Mr. Hay.

Stock Exchange.

Many of the financial problems arising out of the war have been so well handled by the authorities that it is difficult to find any excuse for the prolongation of the existing anomalous state of affairs on the Stock Exchange. Whatever its faults may be, the Stock Exchange is a great institution, and one of the most important wheels in the vastly complicated mechanism of the financial and commercial world. Yet the Treasury and the big banks would appear to have deliberately set themselves to destroy it for ever and a day. First of all there is the absurdity of maintaining "minimum" prices unchanged after dividends have been paid, although there may often be a difference of as much as 2 per cent. between the "cum div." and "ex div." price. Then, again, many of the fixed minima are far too high, with the result that dealings are impossible. Take the case of Consols, for instance; it cannot be good for the country to have what used to be the world's premier security rendered absolutely unmarketable, and yet that is the practical effect of fixing the price at 68½.

"How They Die."

A correspondent who has sometimes wondered "how the poor live," finds it easier to tell us "how they die." On his way home from work Mr. George Smith, of Postling, Kent, came across an old age pensioner who was obviously very ill, and at once set out in search of a doctor. Upon this errand of mercy the good man walked no less than 25 miles. At Lyminge one medical man was too busy to come, while another explained that Postling was beyond the limits of his parish. Smith tramped on to Hythe, and was there told that he must go back to Lyminge to get an order from the Relieving Officer. Returning post-haste, he learned that the Relief Office had been transferred to Seabrook, where in the early hours of the following morning he obtained the necessary order. The doctor arrived at 11 a.m., but the old age pensioner was dead. Dead, we may hope, of disease or senility, and not merely murdered by official ineptitude; but that, perhaps, may never be known.

At Sandow's.

We are taking a course of "Sandow," and have been much struck with the scenes to be witnessed daily at his famous Health Institute in St. James' Street. Officers returned from the Front with nerves shattered in the trenches, young men anxious to serve their country and to qualify for commissions in the Navy or Army, grizzled old veterans, men and women of all ages, suffering from various physical infirmities, are to be seen enthusiastically carrying out his system of health and body culture; and there can be no doubt that the personal time, labour and money which he is devoting to improving the national physique are a very substantial service to the country in this crisis.

"Little Banks."

Having frequently expressed a favourable opinion as to the financial soundness of the John Bull Bank, of Old Jewry, London, we have followed with interest certain questions recently asked in Parliament in reference to the institution, and we hope the President of the Board of Trade will accept the invitation of the proprietor to send an Inspector to report upon its financial position. There is a nice touch of irony in the assurance that "whilst the Bank's assets are much more than ample to meet every possible liability, they do not comprise any dormant balances or unclaimed securities." How many of the big banks could say that?

Every relative of a Soldier or Sailor should read page 6.

HANG THEM NOW!

A ROPE IN TIME HANGS THIRTY-NINE—WHY HARBOUR MURDERERS?

Early in February Germany announced her intention of declaring practically all the waters round the United Kingdom a war-zone and of blockading our ports by means of submarine attacks, at the same time warning neutral and non-combatant vessels of the risk of being sunk if they came within the forbidden area. Now, by every doctrine of international law no blockade can be declared unless the Power putting it into operation has an effective fleet capable of enforcing it. Anything in the nature of casual, unorganised, and spasmodic attacks upon unarmed ships is pure, unadulterated piracy, punishable by the Common Law of England by life imprisonment—but when coupled with an attempt upon life, even if no life be actually destroyed, then with death. It is mainly due to the early efforts of Britain that piracy is now an almost extinct thing, but although it has become customary for jurists to agree that the appropriate method of dealing with it when it arises is by trial in the ordinary way of criminal procedure, the old method was—and we know of no enactment abolishing it—to hang the captured pirates at the yard-arm of the mast. Now Germany, so far from being in a position to carry out an effective blockade, has her grand fleet bottled up in the Kiel Canal, and has relied exclusively upon the piratical exploits of a small fleet of submarines, which, in defiance of every rule of war and of international law, has been occupied during the past few weeks in terrorising and sinking merchant and passenger vessels engaged in purely peaceful occupations.

THE PIRATES' RECORD.

It is impossible to say what crimes have been committed. Many a vessel may have gone silently down to the depths with all hands, and its fate may not be known for weeks to come. There is, for instance, the case of the *Oriole*, concerning which there is now little doubt that she fell a victim to a submarine attack. Leaving that on one side, however, let us look only at the duly authenticated cases of submarine piracy, and see what the cowardly Huns have so far done or attempted.

As far back as October 20th they torpedoed a French boat, the *Amiral Gauteaume*, which was bringing French refugees from Calais to England, and but for the timely and gallant conduct of a British seaman, Captain Carey, of the *Queen*, some 2,000 defenceless women and children would have been murdered in this dastardly manner; and within the last six weeks the following atrocities have to be debited to these monsters: The war hospital ship *Asturias*, of 12,000 tons, having two large red crosses lit up at night by powerful reflectors, and also a broad green horizontal band, was fired at off Havre, but the torpedo fortunately missed. Had the aim been more accurate, probably all on board would have perished. The s.s. *Laertes*, 4,500 tons, from Liverpool, was fired at, but luckily escaped. The *Kirkham Abbey*, 1,166 tons, from Hull, and the *Penhale*, 3,712 tons, from Falmouth, were chased by submarines. The *Victoria*, belonging to the South-Eastern Railway Company, having 92 passengers on board, including 21 women and a large number of neutrals, narrowly escaped being torpedoed, the deadly missile passing 30 yards ahead of the ship. The *Kaliba*, 4,930 tons, from the Clyde, was chased for 30 miles. The *Alexander Hastie*, 206 tons, from North Shields, was approached by a submarine, which, happily, fouled a trawl. The *Hungarian Prince*, 4,765 tons, was attacked by a submarine off Beachy Head. The *St. Andrew*, 2,523 tons, a hospital ship, was chased by a submarine for four miles off Boulogne at 9.30 a.m. on February 25th. The *Alston*, 2,563 tons, of West Hartlepool, was reported to have struck a submarine off Dungeness. The *Thordis*, 501 tons, being attacked off Beachy Head, had the courage and the good luck to ram her assailant, and is believed to have sunk the submarine. The *Wrexham*, 1,414 tons, on March 2nd, and the *Ningchow*, 9,021 tons, on March 4th, were chased by a submarine, but both vessels escaped. On March 5th, a passenger ship of the South Western Railway's, having fifty passengers on board, was fired at by a submarine between Jersey and Southampton, the torpedo passing 40 feet astern of the vessel. As recently as the 6th inst. these pirates sank three British steamers without a word of warning—viz., the *Tangistan*, of 3,783 tons, off Scarborough, with the loss—so far as is at present known—of 37 lives out of a crew of 38; the *Blackwood*, of 1,230 tons, off Hastings, and the *Princess Victoria*, of 1,108 tons, off Liverpool, but in these two cases the crew were, happily, rescued. It will be noticed that these murders and piracies occurred on the very day that the Government published its puerile decision with respect to the captured crew of the submarine U 8.

THE CAPTURES.

It happens, however, that in the case of these piratical, buccaneering, filibustering excursions, not only have several of the pirate boats been sunk, but the whole crew of one and a portion of that of another have fallen into our hands—with the result that to-day 39 German pirates are in custody and, to our lasting shame, still living. Our personal view has always been that whenever a submarine not engaged in legitimate warfare is successfully rammed, it should be left to sink with all its crew; but if by chance any of its officers and men should fall into our hands, then beyond a shadow of doubt they should be made an example of, for the education of the Kaiser and his naval commanders and others responsible for the dastardly outrage upon the humanities of war. Without any formality, every one of the 39 pirates should have been strung up to the mast—and this should be done *now*. There can be no question whatever of

their guilt. They were lurking in our waters for the sole purpose of murdering non-belligerents: they were caught red-handed in the act—and yet they still live and are being fed at the public expense, while we hang our own fellow-citizens, when charged with murder, on circumstantial evidence!

THE PRETEXT.

And what is Germany's excuse—or, rather, pretext? We are stopping her food supplies, forsooth! Was there ever greater hypocrisy? Is not a nation at war entitled to starve out its enemy? Has Germany forgotten, already, the siege of Paris? What cared she, then, about the feeding of the civil population? There were two million non-combatants starving—apart from a garrison of 400,000 men. And has she forgotten, too, the dicta of her own Chancellors, Bismarck and Von Caprivi, who, in the most explicit and unequivocal terms, have laid it down that when the object is to shorten the war by increasing the difficulties of an enemy, it is perfectly legitimate to cut off his food supplies? The truth is that in this, as in every other aspect of the war, Germany is playing the role of humbug. It was *she* who first talked of "blockade"—and now she is getting a taste of it. Our own view is that, from the very commencement of hostilities, every German port should have been sealed down by the Allies. We said so at Battersea weeks ago—just as we also urged the Government to commandeer every engineering shop and factory in the land. After all, war *is* war—and it is no use fooling with it. Just imagine what would happen if by any chance Germany obtained the control of *our* ports! No; we have been far too lenient with her up till now. We wonder what would have happened if Lord Kitchener had been Prime Minister! *He* would not have worried himself about "reprisals." We remember what he is supposed to have said to Lord Roberts when the British force had General Cronjé and his men in their power in South Africa. "Why not annihilate them?" said the stern young General. "No," replied his kindly chief, "we will starve them out" —when "That is very generous of you," came the reply.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE.

What has the Government to say for itself? Was political puerility ever carried further? Here, for the first time in human history, we have a great Power officially sanctioning the revival of piracy and murder—our commerce, our sailors, and our passengers being subjected to all the horrors attendant upon the revival in its most cold-blooded and calculated form. Indeed, never since the Bey of Barbary loosed upon the world's commerce his chartered ruffians, to murder and destroy non-combatants, has the world been shocked by the appearance of piratical vessels operating under the full sanction and with the hearty co-operation of an organised government, until the Kaiser's submarine fleet was loosed by the direct order of Kaiser William of Germany and Admiral von Tirpitz. And there is no secret about it. The German press, great and small, has gloated over the orders given by its ruler and its chief admiral. The Germanic press, Parliament and *people* stand solidly behind this most damnable outrage; and when a grand old sea warrior like Lord Charles Beresford calls upon the Admiralty to put the law of piracy in force, what is he told? Just listen: The captured pirates are "to be deprived of the honours of war" and "of such courtesies as the Service allows." No honour is to be paid "to their rank"; and they are to be treated as prisoners awaiting trial upon "a strong probability that they have been guilty of attacking and sinking unarmed merchantmen and firing torpedoes at ships, non-combatants, neutrals and women." A strong probability! Ye gods! it is enough to make old Nelson turn in his grave. The truth is that, in embarking upon this crusade of assassination, Germany relied upon the reports of her agents and spies to the effect that behind the Government is a body of sentimental cranks whose votes it cannot afford to endanger. These people wield a great, though unseen, influence in the councils of the State, and, although it may sound a harsh thing to say, we hold them as accessories before the fact in these sea murders. They are amongst Britain's enemies at the present moment, and should be cleared out of public life. The Germans have only to mention the word "reprisals" to frighten these "humanitarian" milksops out of their skins. Reprisals be damned! Have *we* no German prisoners? Besides, this is no new threat. It comes from the old days of the corsairs; and it is our duty to show the Kaiser that Britain's arm is not so foreshortened that it cannot, when circumstances warrant it, strike a blow as "frightful" as any of which Bernhardi and his school ever dreamed.

THE OLD STORY.

But, with our invertebrate political system, what is the use of protesting? No wonder the Germans began to think that we were a decadent race! However, we suppose we must face the situation and continue to harbour every captured pirate until after the war, when, whilst the Law Officers of the Crown are framing an indictment, they will be sent back home as one of the terms of peace! In the meantime, however, we shall not be surprised if our gallant Jack Tars evince less solicitude for the safety of submarine crews struggling in the waters than they have hitherto done—and who shall blame them? But just a word to the Prime Minister. If he cannot bring himself and his colleagues to realise that we really are at war—with a powerful and unscrupulous and a savage foe—and to act accordingly, will he at least screw his courage up to the point of addressing to Germany a stern ultimatum, warning her that from this hour onward the extreme penalty of the law will be put into force by Great Britain against all officers and men captured whilst engaged in piracy upon our waters? Let him in plain language state that they who murder non-combatants shall hang, and that the uniform of the Kaiser's Navy shall be no deterrent to the due and swift course of justice. This is the very least we have a right to expect. Under a Business Government, however, when a gang of treacherous, callous ruffians were caught red-handed in acts of piracy and murder off the British coast, they would, without ceremony, be hanged by the neck until they were dead—every Jack-German of them—whether the Lord had mercy on their souls or not!

OUR GREAT PATRIOTIC OFFER.

STUPENDOUS GRANTS TO RELATIVES AND DEPENDENTS OF SAILORS AND SOLDIERS KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE—PROVISION FOR THOSE NEVER BEFORE INCLUDED IN ANY WAR RELIEF SCHEME.

Just as we were the first journal to inaugurate a system of insurance for the benefit of the dependents of civilians killed by hostile attack by land, air or sea, providing compensation for injuries resulting in partial or total disablement, and for damage done to homes and property, we now take the lead in a colossal scheme of free benefits for the dependents of sailors, soldiers and men of the mercantile marine killed in the course of active service. This is an absolutely free gift by us, and involves nothing more on the part of our readers than the filling up of the coupons which will be found on this page.

What we have in mind is the prompt payment of a sum of money to bereaved dependents, thus enabling them at once to get the various things rendered necessary by the loss of their support, and the want of which in so many cases intensifies the sorrow coming upon them. How many widows and others to-day, on reading of this scheme, will wish it had been in operation in the earlier days of the war! There will be none of the official formalities—no inquisitorial investigation—no delay. Nor will the reception of our gift in any way affect the question of any other compensation or pension payable by the Government. It will be just a welcome and timely little windfall, coming at the moment when ready money is so necessary.

Our Scheme Summarised.

Shortly summarised, our scheme is as follows:—Grants of £10 will be made to the dependents or relations (wives, parents, next-of-kin, etc.), of British-born subjects killed in serving their King and Country. In the event of the person named in the coupon being killed:—

(*a*) By direct act of war at the Front
(*b*) By direct act of war at sea
(*c*) By direct act of war on active service in the United Kingdom, whilst defending our country against attacks or invasion of the enemy
(*d*) By hostile aircraft, submarine or mine

we intend to give this compensation. We shall include merchant service seamen who are also risking their lives on the seas in order that we who are at home may be regularly supplied with the necessities of life, to say nothing of the materials for carrying on this greatest war in the history of the world.

This liberal offer, as explained above, is made with a view to providing some assistance for persons who have been bereaved of those on whom they depend for support.

No one will be eligible unless he or she fills in the newsagent's order for the regular delivery of John Bull, and also completes the duplicate coupon attached, and posts it to us for registration. The person named will become entitled to payment under this scheme from the date of the signing of the newsagent's order form.

What You Have To Do.

To make quite clear what you have to do, we summarise it here. First, fill up the coupon addressed to the newsagent. *Any* newsagent will take it, and will help you to fill it up. Leave it with him, and then fill up the second coupon, after cutting it away from the first one, and post that one to us. In the first part of it you give the name and address of the newsagent, and then you sign your own name and address. And here, again, any newsagent will help you, if asked. Don't forget, on sending us the second coupon, to put "Sailors' and Soldiers' Department"—or "S. and S. Dept." will do—on the envelope.

Notification of death must be made to us in writing as soon as it is known to the claimant, and it must also have appeared in one of the Casualty Lists issued by the War Office or Admiralty—or in an official communication from one or other of those departments—and such list, or communication, must be produced as evidence.

This offer is quite distinct from, and is in addition to, the great Free War Insurance scheme for civilians, full particulars of which will be found on page 24.

You must, however, keep the two things distinct. That is to say, if you have already filled up any coupons in connection with *that* scheme, you must fill up another in order to participate in *this* one.

Hitherto all schemes for the benefit of war sufferers have left out entirely the dependents and relatives of the actual fighting men. It is true that in the case of widows a Government pension will be received—*some day*—but even then many who are put to all kinds of extra expense will not get anything, as no official scheme covers them. Our great offer will remedy that state of affairs. Not a moment, therefore, should be lost in availing yourself of it, if you have any relative on active service.

We hope and anticipate that this generous provision for the immediate needs of their loved ones will act as a strong stimulus to many a man who may be hesitating whether, in view of his domestic responsibilities, he can offer himself to his country. The prompt receipt of such a sum, without the routine and trouble involved in obtaining payment of even policies of insurance, may make all the difference.

No more than one sum of £10 will be paid on any person's life, and in the event of more than one claim in connection with a single life being made, the amount will be paid to the nearest relative or relatives, or may, in the discretion of the Editor, be divided amongst the claimants in such proportion as he may consider fair.

Payments will be made the first week in each month.

We limit our total payment to £500 per month. If more claims are received, the sum will be distributed *pro rata*.

The decision of the Editor in all matters appertaining to or arising out of the scheme is to be absolutely final.

.....(Cut out here.).....

"JOHN BULL'S" PATRIOTIC OFFER.

Coupon to be handed to Newsagent.

*To Mr. or Mrs.*_____ *Newsagent*

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice.

*Signed*_____

(This portion to be handed to the Newsagent.)

.....

(Cut this portion off first Coupon.)

DUPLICATE COUPON.

To be posted to SAILORS' and SOLDIERS' DEPT., John Bull, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of John Bull with

*Mr. or Mrs.*_____ *Newsagent, of*

and I desire to benefit under your free scheme in the event of the death on active service of

_____

(Signed) *Name* _____
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss.)

*Address*_____

(March 20, 1915.)

"MORALS BEFORE MEN."

THE PLEA OF THE UNMARRIED "WIVES."

Who are championing the cause of the "unmarried" wives? Not the clergy. That fact has been brought home to us by a touching "human document" which we have received. It is written by one unmarried wife on behalf of six others who have neglected to have the ties made legally binding by word of parson or registrar. The writer makes no pretence to literary style. She is just an ordinary wife of an ordinary Tommy.

> I am writing to you as a constant reader to ask if it is fair for us unmarried wives to be slurred by the bishops. I do not know where to write to them, but I wish if you know to forward this letter on to them. I am writing on behalf of six unmarried wives, who feel it dreadful for religious people to cast stones at us while our dear ones are away, and do you think when they read about it they will be able to fight their foe when they know how their loved ones are being treated at home by bishops. Our husbands in the sight of God are in the trenches night and day, not arguing night and day as the Bishops are doing to degrade us. When the poor Belgian women came here everyone helped them, as they should do, and did not want to know the secrets of their cupboards. So it is not manly of them to be hurting the feelings of their own countrywomen, whose secrets have only come out through the war. There is a lot of us placed the same and we've all sworn since the religious ones are against us our children shall never go to Sunday school. It's a pity they (the Bishops) did not spend their days and nights in getting cheap divorce and thousands of these things would not have happened. Some of us are more true to our own promises than the Church people have been. I am the "lawful" wife of a drunken sot. My life has been one long misery. Now, I'm proud to say, I'm the "unlawful" but true wife of a brave man in the trenches and the mother of a brave son at sea. They will be pleased to learn they left their good home to protect the homes and churches of the Bishops who war against them whilst they are away.

What is the answer to such an indictment? Surely it is that we want *men* for bishops and parsons even as we want *men* for our army.

BILLETING AND BOTHERATION.

THE WRONG WAY TO TREAT HOUSEHOLDERS.

From time to time we have complaints from householders concerning billeting arrangements. The form of the complaint is a general one, and we may put it in this way: A sergeant of police calls at the house and requests the householder to billet so many soldiers, who will arrive on a certain day. The sergeant makes a note, and the householder makes preparations, but when the morning appointed dawns on the anticipated scene of welcome the men in khaki do not put in an appearance. Particularly has this been the way with those who have managed or mismanaged the billeting arrangements for the London Scottish. Many of the householders called on to billet the men depend wholly upon lodgers for paying their way through this our mortal life. They were nevertheless told that they must refuse other lodgers, exclusively reserving the rooms and making necessary food provision for the soldiers to be billeted. After carrying out this arrangement and making the provision of food, the men did not arrive. "Dozens of people in the neighbourhood were served the same," says our informant; "they are all people who, like myself, can ill afford such treatment. We had not a single word of withdrawal, and have not yet had a single word about compensation for the trouble and loss to which we have been put." Whoever are responsible for this reprehensible bungling, should amend their ways.

FOOLS AND THEIR FOLLY.

MANY MUST NOT SUFFER FOR FAULTS OF THE FEW.

Two fools of Eastbourne, both boatmen, met a soldier when he was recovering from the effects of drink. They produced a pint bottle full of whisky, offered it to him, and bet him a shilling he could not drink its contents. To win the money the soldier drank the lot, "and then," said a witness at the coroner's court, "the boatmen went away laughing." Arrested by the police for drunkenness, the soldier died in the guard room the following morning as a result of acute alcoholism. It is not a savoury story, and the moral is on the surface. In his address to the jury, the Coroner spoke of the "cruel thoughtlessness" of people who treat soldiers, adding "I have good reason to think it will be made a highly punishable offence." Thus saying, he repeated a rumour which has been current for some little time that the Government's new Drink Bill, threatened by Mr. Lloyd George, will contain a clause prohibiting the treating of soldiers in public-houses; whether the Coroner's "good reason to think" is any more than this we do do not know. Such cases of treating as that at Eastbourne are rare—though admittedly there are fools many and soldiers many; we do not suppose they happen frequently in public-houses. How the non-treating of soldiers on licensed premises could be made effective is not clear, for money is readily passed from hand to hand and soldiers could easily stand themselves drinks with other people's cash. Apart from this, the average soldier has just as much self-respect, and is as well able to take care of himself, as the average Coroner or the average Home Secretary. For the Legislature to treat him differently to other citizens is to insult him at a time when insulting him certainly cannot pay. We say deliberately that the sobriety and general good conduct of the thousands of troops called into being in our midst are not less creditable to them than to the country from which they spring and whose honour and prestige and sense of right they are voluntarily in arms to support.

THE CROOK'S CHANCE.

COLLECTING CARDS THAT CONDUCE TO CRIME.

Of all the proofs of faith in human nature commend to us the scheme for raising money for the "Soldiers' Entertainment Fund." The Hon. Secretaries are gentlemen of high reputation—Messrs. E. Forbes Lankester, K.C.; J. Stuart Paton, Percy C. Quilter, and F. A. Gunther. We never liked the street collecting box system and take to ourselves some credit for having induced Scotland Yard to do away with it; but here we have something much worse. Collecting cards for the Fund have been given out indiscriminately to patrons of a cinema show, just as handbills are distributed. The cards are not numbered or recorded and no names or addresses of recipients are taken. It is, therefore, rendered easy for a dishonest person to collect money and place it in his pocket. As nothing is said regarding the acknowledgment of sums received and publication of the names of donors, human nature would not be what it is if a considerable proportion of those who have such helps to lucrative dishonesty placed in their hands do not make the most of them. We are amazed that the point did not strike the Hon. Secretaries if they saw the card which is issued in their names. We think Mr. Lankester and his friends should take immediate steps to cancel this undesirable arrangement. Meanwhile, we warn the public not to give money to persons holding the indiscriminately-circulated cards.

The most Generous Scheme—OUR Free War Insurance. See page 24.

THE CUNLIFFE OWENS—AND THEIR OWINGS

SENSITIVE SOLICITORS' SOLICITUDE FOR SPORTSMEN'S SPONSORS.

For adversely criticising the patriotic efforts of a private individual who was endeavouring, on his own account, to form a new unit for Kitchener's army—despite official discouragement of his scheme—we were recently mulct in damages to the extent of £100. As law-abiding citizens, we bow to the decision of the jury, and as good sportsmen we congratulate the plaintiff on his success. Our experience in this particular case will not, however, debar us from speaking out whenever circumstances appear to warrant public warning, and we now revert to the subject of the Sportsman's Battalions, and to the connection therewith of the founders, Mr. and Mrs. Cunliffe Owen, the latter of whom describes herself as "Chief Recruiting Officer," whilst her husband tells us, through the press, that he and his wife "are responsible for the money"—referring presumably to the entrance fee of three guineas charged to each recruit, and which Mrs. Cunliffe Owen says "is being asked with the full knowledge and consent of the War Office," although in an official communication from that department we are assured that "the War Office have no information of the levying of a three guinea entrance fee, and it has not received the sanction of the Army Council." In a press interview, Mr. Cunliffe Owen is reported to have said that "the expenses in connection with the First Battalion amount to a sum which we are afraid will be over £7,000 more than we shall get repaid by the War Office; then there is the Second Battalion." Mrs. Cunliffe Owen, in addition to the definite statements we have quoted, in a letter to a contemporary says, "Every recruit I get costs between £8 and £10 over and above what is refunded by the War Office"—whilst in October last she issued a leaflet in which it was said that "donations towards the cost of raising and equipping the battalion will be gratefully received." Then, in the form which recruits have to sign, she puts the question, "How much can you pay towards the extra cost (£8 to £10) of your kit?"

Mrs. Cunliffe Owen was recently made the subject of interrogation in our "Sentry Go," when we ventured to suggests that she had brought down a certain amount of ridicule upon a fine body of patriotic men through her unseemly dispute with the Colonel commanding, and was "a little too pushful and prominent in the affairs of the Sportsman's Battalions." A few days later we received the following letter from no less eminent a firm of solicitors than Messrs. Carter and Bell:—

> Our clients, Mr. and Mrs. Cunliffe Owen, have had their attention called to the remarks in the issue of JOHN BULL (under date February 13th, 1915) appearing under the heading "John Bull on Sentry Go."
>
> The publication of these remarks has caused much pain and annoyance to our clients, their relatives and friends and is not conducive to the success of the Sportsman's Battalion of His Majesty's Forces.
>
> Under these circumstances, we are instructed by our clients to request that all further reference to themselves and their efforts on behalf of the Sportsman's Battalion should forthwith cease.
>
> We venture to think this is a request with which you will consider it reasonable to comply.
>
> Be good enough to acknowledge receipt of this letter.

If this letter meant anything, it meant that—although, in the opinion of their distinguished advisers, the Cunliffe Owens had not been libelled—they were persons of such super-sensitive temperament and sacrosanct position, that any press criticism calculated to hurt their feelings was to be reprobated. But whenever Carter and Bell come upon the scene we commence thinking—and the following letter, written by the Editor, contains the result of our deliberations:—

> I duly received your letter of the 10th, which has led me to make further enquiries regarding the position of these people and their claims to public confidence and before dealing further with the matter I should be glad to know whether they are identical with certain individuals of the same name and initials who, some six years ago, borrowed money from the British Finance Company, in respect of which there is still about £80 owing.
>
> Also, whether Mr. Cunliffe Owen is identical with the Edward Cunliffe Owen who, in 1911, applied to Mr. A. Phillips, moneylender, for a loan, and in 1912 also applied to another moneylender named Wilton, and in 1913 to a moneylender named Lubbock.
>
> Also, whether he is identical with the person of the same name and initials against whom a County Court judgment for £19 was registered in 1911, and another for £29 in 1913.
>
> Also, whether Mrs. E. Cunliffe Owen is the same lady as the one who applied for a loan in 1912 to Messrs. Fairhead and to Wilton about the same time, and as recently as 1913 to Messrs. Stirling.
>
> Also, whether she is identical with the person of the same name and initial against whom other County Court judgments are registered, although the addresses are not always the same.
>
> I presume you will agree that if my surmises are correct I shall be justified in making the facts known to the public?

A few days later this remarkable reply was received:—

> We are in receipt of your's (*sic*) of the 24th inst., but being unaware whether the allegations contained therein be well or ill-founded we are obtaining our clients' instructions.

Again the Editor wrote:—

> Following my previous letter, perhaps you will also let me know whether it is a fact that when a moneylender named Cohen obtained judgment and issued execution some time ago, he was met by a claim made by a relative of Mrs. Cunliffe Owen, who stated that he had bought the furniture some time previously, and had let it out on hire; also whether it is a fact that Mr. Cunliffe Owen has assigned a portion of his income—received as secretary to a Gas Company—in liquidation of Mrs. Cunliffe Owen's debts, and whether the creditors are being paid at the rate of 1s. in the £ every three or six months
>
> I need scarcely say that if my information is correct, I shall conceive it to be my duty to speak much more plainly about your clients' present activities than I have so far done.

To this Messrs. Carter and Bell answered:—

> We duly received your's (*sic*) of the 4th inst., the terms of which we have communicated to our clients and have arranged that the whole matter be placed before the Committee of the Sportsman's Battalion on Thursday, the 11th inst.; and should we receive instructions, we will then deal with the matters raised in your said letter, and your letter of the 25th ult.

And later, under date of March 12th, came this extraordinary epistle:—

> We are now instructed by the Committee of the Sportsman's Battalions to inform you that application has been made to the War Office for leave to publish an interim cash receipts and payments account to the various subscribers to the Battalion, and we have the further instructions of the Committee to inform you when such leave has been obtained.

What do the Sportsman's Battalions think of their sponsors?

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

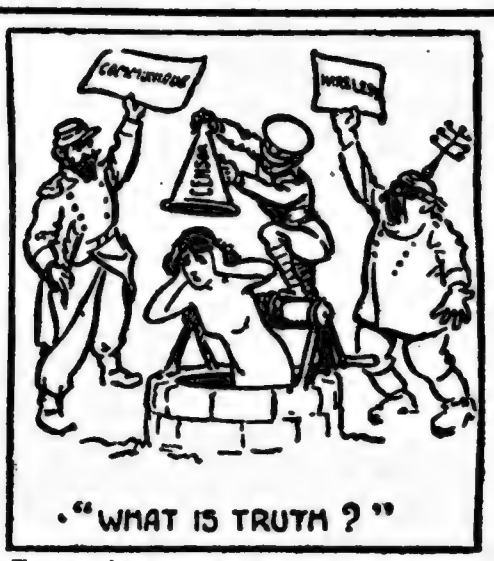
BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

"NEVER SAY, 'DYE'!"

Although the Government design
To help the trade in aniline,
Their scheme will so the dyer fetter
That sooner it is dead the better.

THE KAISER'S KITE

Of money they can raise no end—
At least, so do the Huns pretend;
We question if it can be found,
For Wilhelm sits on "stony" ground.

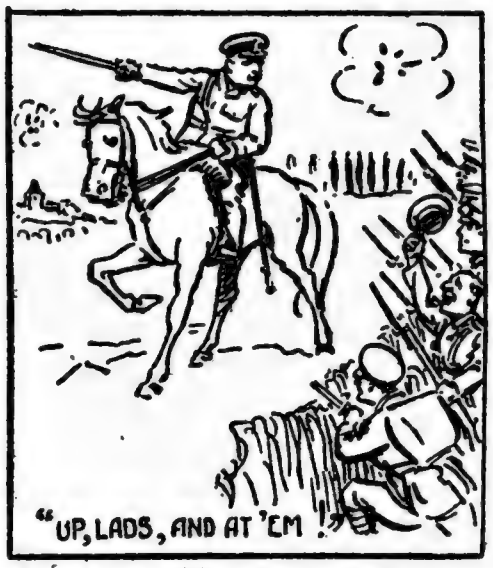


"WHAT IS TRUTH?"

Truth tries to issue from her well,
A plain, unvarnished tale to tell;
But each belligerent cries "Oh, no!"
And once more shoves her down below.

TEMPTATION

Now is Italia's fateful hour;
Will she resist the tempter's power,
And range herself with the Allies
In the world's greatest enterprise?



"UP, LADS, AND AT 'EM!"

At last the British Army moves
Helped by the strategy that's French's,
And its great dash and courage proves,
Driving the Germans from their trenches.

"DONT YOU WISH YOU MAY GET IT?"

The Metropolitan P.C.
Is now as happy as can be:
He's got three shillings rise! But pity
The riseless Bobby in the City.

HORRORS OF HARROGATE.

MERETRICIOUS MINXES AND THEIR MORALS.

The Rev. W. Younger, of the Harrogate Primitive Methodist Church, is amongst the latest to dictate regarding the relations between girls and soldiers, and he appears to be very wroth. Addressing his congregation recently, he said that he had "seen with his own eyes sights that made his blood boil. Young women had come upon men in the streets, about whom they knew nothing, and, after a casual interview, had gone off with the men. Could anything be more horrible?"

Let us tell him what is far more horrible. It is that a puritan parson should slander all the maidens of Harrogate, and suggest that because a girl goes off for a stroll with Tommy she must be a degraded hoyden—a very pretty compliment to the morals of the gallant young fellows who have volunteered to fight for their country. They are training for that purpose by reproducing the acts of the Germans in Belgium! Why should a man be more lewd and libidinous because he wields a gun rather than a pen or a hammer? The reverend gentleman wondered that the girls were not appalled at their own forwardness, seeing that "the most sacred safeguard of a woman was her purity and honour." Personally, we think that a girl's purity and honour will safeguard her as well in the company of our soldiers as in the society of male Sunday School teachers.

THE NIGHT FEAR.

A TRUE TALE OF THE TRENCHES.

Dark trench, dark night, and darkness in his heart!
A sound, a murmur, made the soldier start
And shiver in his solitude alone;
The night fear gripped and claimed him for its own.

Ye who at home lead lives of slothful ease
Know not the midnight moan among the trees;
It whispered menace to the soldier's ear,
And cold as ice he stood—afraid of fear.

He strove to tell himself a lie, because
He said the thing was not real, but it was,
This unknown thing, this horror of the night
That stole his nerve and wrapped him in affright.

Was it the stealthy coming of the foe?
Now burned his brain with fierce desire to know;
To raise his head on high were madness stark,
Yet stood he up and peered into the dark.

One yard away, two eyes that glowed like coal,
Set in a white face, scarified his soul!
A second passed like ages—more than that—
Then a "*Miaou!*" He gurgled, "Darn the cat!"

RICHARD MORTON.

Our Great Patriotic Offer. See page 6.

A RIFT IN THE LUTE.

OH, LISTEN TO THE BRIDLINGTON BAND!

Our recent paragraph relating to the employment at Delhi of a Viceregal bandmaster of Hunnish origin has evoked a good deal of indignation, but there is no need, it appears, to travel abroad in search of parallel instances. At Bridlington, the New Spa Orchestra, controlled by the municipality, remains under the direction of Mr. Julian Kandt, a gentleman of Austrian extraction, who, until the outbreak of war, was apt to flaunt his nationality upon every possible occasion. Since the commencement of hostilities, Mr. Kandt, somewhat softened in demeanour, has remained in charge of the orchestra. The following pronouncement from a local source reflects the sentiments of the patriotic residents of the town:—

> When the Bandmaster came to Bridlington he held himself out to be an Austrian, with an Austrian band. His name was printed on the programme as "Herr" Julian Kandt. All his men were "Herr" something or other. Now he is very patriotic, and says he has true English sympathies, but his naturalisation papers cannot change the blood.

Bridlington is only seventeen miles from Scarborough, and many of its loyal townsmen, who have been within sound of the enemy's guns, acutely resent the appointment. However, Mr. Kandt appears to have secured a contract carrying him to the end of the year 1917, involving the municipality in an annual liability of £1,400, and in these circumstances it was not altogether easy to dispense with his services. Finally, however, at a recent meeting of the Corporation the Development Committee were able to propose that the Bandmaster should be "paid off" upon generous terms. It was pointed out that under his direction the New Spa Orchestra had ceased to be a paying concern, while if he were replaced by a born Britisher, considerable revival of business might be confidently predicted. For some obscure reason, however, the majority of the Council were impervious to these cogent pleas, nor did they respond to the appeal of patriotism. After a debate extending to within half-an-hour of midnight, the recommendation of the Development Committee was spurned by a majority of two.

While on this subject, we are glad to note that the recent dearth of recruiting bands is rapidly being made good by private effort, but we are curious to know why military bands retained in England could not be employed for this purpose. The query is emphasised in a printed appeal to the public of Brighton, lately issued by the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, which runs:—

> We appeal to your sense of fair-play and justice. . . . The war has caused hundreds of musicians to be thrown out of employment; even those in engagements have had their wages considerably reduced. Over 500 members of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union have answered their country's call. Those left behind are paying the contributions of the 500 to keep them in benefit. The band of the Grenadier Guards is engaged on the Palace Pier, which throws out of employment civilian musicians in favour of men who are housed, fed and clothed by the State, and who ought now to be doing the duties for which the State pays them instead of robbing civilian musicians of their chance to earn a living.

We are inclined to endorse this view, having always understood that in time of war military bandsmen would be engaged in various non-combatant services closely related to the comfort and well-being of the fighting troops. Yet we learn that not only at Brighton, but in the neighbouring borough of Hove, the bands of famous regiments have lately been booked up for the coming season. Here, surely, is a state of affairs demanding a word of official explanation.

A ROGUE'S "REFERENCE."

ANOTHER LUCKLESS PROTEGE OF MR. WILDEY-WRIGHT.

A solicitor, from the very nature of his profession, ought to be a good judge of character; but there must be something radically wrong with Mr. Wildey-Wright's estimating capacity. We showed recently how woefully mistaken this gentleman was in giving a reference to that consummate rogue, W. J. Simmons—*alias* the British Commercial Agency, etc.—when he proposed to become the tenant of some premises in Essex Street, Strand. We now find that Mr. Wildey-Wright in June, 1913, informed the agents for a house in Coverdale Road, Shepherd's Bush, that he had known a Mr. Harold Foster Bishop for many years and that, although he was not acquainted with his financial position, he believed he "should prove a desirable and responsible tenant." So desirable and responsible a tenant did Bishop prove that he was convicted seven months later of living on the immoral earnings of his wife, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. It is worthy of note that Mr. Wildey-Wright did not appear for Bishop at the trial; but he came upon the scene once more in the following August, when Bishop, having bounced his landlady, removed his furniture without paying the rent. Mr. Wildey-Wright, acting, of course, on instructions from his precious client, then endeavoured to go one better—the poor woman, in the end, losing the amount due to her. We are not aware how far, if at all, Mr. Wildey-Wright's researches have been conducted into the family history of the Bishops. If they extended even a very short way, he would have discovered that Bishop *père*—the Revd. Francis of that ilk, whose various addresses, Little Oakley Rectory, Harwich; 59, Coldershaw Road, Ealing, W., and 5, Drayton Green Road, show a certain instability of tenure—is a notorious begging-letter writer, and that his son Arthur has been "following in father's footsteps" so far as cadging is concerned, and has imitated his brother Harold by bilking his landlord. If we may venture to offer some advice to Mr. Wildey-Wright, it would be couched in the words of Mr. Justice Starleigh to Sam Weller, namely to be "very careful."

TOMMY'S "TUCKER."

WHO OWNS THE SOLDIER'S SURPLUS RATIONS?

"Major Traill said the amount of bread issued to soldiers was putting temptation in people's way. Men were served with 1¼ lbs. of bread daily, but could not give away what they could not consume." Such was part of the evidence given at Aldershot the other day in a case in which a contractor had bought back what the soldiers did not want, the result being a fine of 16 guineas or three months' imprisonment. The food was claimed to be "the property of the King." It was no such thing. It was the official measure of food served out to the troops, and being the property of the troops it was up to them to eat it or leave it, or dispose of it as they thought fit. Does the King want to make a profit out of his troops' leavings, as the occupant of a London tenement house makes a profit out of old iron, bottles, rags and bones, and rabbit skins? The rations issued to the soldier are a portion of his daily pay. Go to Russia or Poland, and there at every barrack you will see soldiers sitting by the windows holding out loaves for sale—loaves that are left over from the allowance. If the scale of food is too generous, then let it be cut down, and let the men have more money. If the men, having fed themselves, find that they have a surplus and if they elect to sell it, it is hard to see how the authorities obtain their right to act as prosecutors.

Have you a relative or friend a Soldier or Sailor? If so, turn to page 6.

WHITEHALL OLD WOMEN.

SHIPWRECKED SAILORS AND SLEEPY SLOWNESS.

From perils by sea and from perils by Board of Trade, may Heaven deliver the poor sailor! He goes out on the deep where, in addition to the ordinary risks, mines and torpedoes await him. Day by day we read of ships being lost by the infernal agency of Germany's barbarous methods of warfare. We read of the crew, or so many members of it, being saved—but very few of us pause to realise what troubles follow in the wake of shipwreck.

In the ordinary course all seamen are responsible for their own belongings, and the loss of them by accident or the natural perils of the deep does not affect the owners unless such loss can be proved to have been occasioned by their neglect. That is, indeed, a grave hardship for our brave merchant-sailors, who incur not only the exceptional risk incidental to their calling, but who, if they save their lives, generally lose their belongings. Many such cases have been brought to our notice recently and, in our limited way, we have come to the assistance of the unfortunate fellows. Of course there is a great moral responsibility upon the owners to make good, although there is no legal liability.

What we really gird at is the sleepy slowness of the Board of Trade, whose business it is to carry out some scheme whereby the sailors who lose their belongings may be indemnified. Such a scheme has been formulated, but it would take a double-extra dose of geglinite to wake the Board of Trade slumberers to a sense of their duty. A system of insurance, with a low rate of premium, has been proposed. In point of fact, every man who sails the seas in these times of danger should be automatically insured by the Government against all likely losses. Trade is our life, and, whilst our brave sailors are preserving us, the least we can do is to safeguard their interests as far as possible.

All the same, whilst we champion the cause of the shipwrecked mariners, we must see that those deserving salts do not succeed in elongating our legs. There are sailors who go to sea in the clothes in which they stand up and precious little beside, but when they have been saved from the waters their lists of lost things sometimes blossom into wardrobes of wondrous proportions! They remind us of that early ancestor of Mark Twain who, when he left England, went on board with all his outfit inside a pocket handkerchief, and on landing needed three cabin trunks and several portmanteaux to accommodate his belongings!

SMOKE, SMOKE, SMOKE!

CIGARETTE CARDS AND A "LEGLESS LAD."

For some months past a pathetic story has been told in West End bars, schools and other diversified places of public resort. The details vary, but the gist of it is that a little boy was tempted by the offer of a cigarette card to follow a motor-car, and that in running after it he got knocked down by a 'bus, and was so injured that both legs had to be amputated. In these circumstances, it is alleged, a well-known tobacco company have promised the lad £1 a week for life, provided his friends and the public collect 100,000 of their cigarette cards. Inquiry proves the whole tale is a myth—being even less substantial than the smoke of the cigarettes. It is, however, difficult to see the object of its inventor—the reputation and wealth of the tobacco firm placing them above suspicion. A somewhat similar yarn has long been current regarding tramcar tickets—though the person to be benefited is merely described as a poor sufferer desirous of getting into an unnamed hospital.

FURLOUGHS AND FARES.

REGULATIONS REQUIRED FOR RAILWAY RAMPS.

Once more we draw the attention of the authorities to the urgent necessity of granting free railway transit for every soldier and sailor who can produce a Leave Permit signed by his Commanding Officer. The letters we receive from men about to proceed to the front who could obtain a few days' leave of absence to see their friends—probably for the last time—but who are unable to avail themselves of the privilege because they have not the money to pay the railway fare, are not only pathetic, but constitute a damning indictment of callousness on the part of the military authorities. In some cases we have paid the fares ourselves, but our Fund is not equal to a continuous demand. Here is a typical instance. A London lad answered his country's call. He was sent to Aldershot, and subsequently to Ireland, where he was "put through the mill." As he has a mother, he made an allotment of pay to her, leaving himself 3s. 6d. a week to meet his expenses. Having become efficient in military drill, he was told he might have six days' leave. And what happened? Having spent his 3s. 6d. a week on riotous living at the Y.M.C.A. tent, "Woodbines" and other luxuries, he found that, although his Commanding Officer had granted him leave of absence, there was the problem of the railway fare, which in this particular case was 30s.—the single fare for return journey. No wonder he was bewildered. In such cases the spirit of the lads is often broken. We will not state what they think, although they have told us in unmistakable language, for it does not make pleasant reading. If the authorities, after reading this paragraph, will only give rein to their imagination, and place themselves in Tommy's and Jack's position, we feel sure free railway passes will be issued forthwith. We are quite aware that our advocacy of this concession was acted upon for Christmas leave, but only a small percentage of men were able to avail themselves of it. We suggest that at all times when leave of absence is granted vouchers for free railway transit should be a part of the pass.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR

GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

"Owing to a big dispute about race horses I kindly ask if you could send me a coppy of the fastest troting. horses in the World and theirs time of troting one mile I have a bet that, Dan Patch an American Horse can do the Mile in one minite and 55½ seconds. If I am right you Might kindly let me know without delay and Oblidge."

"I can make peace, between the Allie's and Germany, if you will pay my fare to Berlin, so I can interview the Kaiser. I have a secret, which I know would be grabbed at by Germany and agreeable to the Allies, and peace would be signed in 24 hours, after my interview with the Kaiser. If you pay my return journey to Berlin, and give me 30s for my expenses I will do this for you at once, and the world will applaud, and say JOHN BULL made peace for 30s."

"Has we went on an eggkertion to Chedder, i thort i tell u how we was done. They shew us a petrified skelingtun, which they said was 40,000 years old. Can you tell me if it am true. How do they know. Have we been did brown. If not, why aint is name in the bible. Has I hopp to see this proved, or disaproved, can you reply in your letter bag."

"Has it ever been known, for any person to walk under the water, from St. Marys bay, to Cape Grigness."

The most Generous Scheme—OUR Free War Insurance. See page 24.

A WRONGFUL REPRIMAND.

EDUCATION OFFICIALS' EGREGIOUS ERROR.

The wisdom of meeting a dearth of adult labour by the relaxation of school attendance requirements may be open to question, but we may fairly demand that, whether in war or peace, the compulsory provisions of the Education Acts shall be administered with fairness and at least a modicum of sympathy. In a case lately brought to our notice, these essential requirements seem to have been wholly ignored. The facts are related by a South London mother, whose unanswerable claim to our sympathy is thus established :—

> My late husband was a life pensioner, having served 21 years in the Marines. He had also finished his time in the Royal Fleet Reserve, thus qualifying for an increase of pension. He was called back to the Colours on August Bank Holiday. That was the last I saw of him, as he was sent to Ireland to join H.M.S. *Hawke*.

The *Hawke* went to her doom, and our correspondent was left a widow with two young children to support. It had been her husband's wish that one of the boys should follow him in the Service, and the mother accordingly endeavoured to procure his admission to a school at Greenwich where he might be suitably trained for the Navy. For this purpose a recommendation from an elementary school was necessary, and the mother was much gratified to receive the following satisfactory tribute to her child's good qualities, signed by the Head Mistress of an L.C.C. Infants' Department :—

> This is to certify that ——— was admitted to this school at Whitsun, 1912. *He has always attended regularly and punctually.* He is an intelligent little lad, much above the average. Although we shall be sorry to lose him, we hope he will be admitted to the Greenwich school.

The purpose of our italics will presently appear. Through the good offices of a charitable lady, the mother was able to take her children to Herne Bay for a few weeks at Christmas, where, with the consent of the Head Mistress, they outstayed the school vacation by a few days. It was then necessary to have the elder boy vaccinated preparatory to his admission to the Greenwich school, and on this account the child again missed a few school attendances. On February 26th he left for Greenwich, but in the meanwhile the school attendance authorities had prepared a formal "warning" to the bereaved mother, which, in view of its flagrant injustice, we reprint in full :—

> Take notice that you have been guilty of a breach of the law in that you have habitually and without reasonable excuse neglected to provide efficient Elementary Education for your child—*and to send him regularly and punctually to an efficient school*, and that you have thus rendered yourself liable to be summoned before a Magistrate. The Council hopes that it will not be necessary to take any further steps to enforce the law, but that your child will regularly attend school. You are, however, warned that by Act of Parliament, Magistrates have now the power for each breach of the law to inflict a fine amounting with costs to twenty shillings.

The officer responsible for this documentary atrocity must certainly have been endowed with a double dose of native stupidity. The phrase we have italicised scarcely differs from that employed by the Head Mistress in a precisely contrary sense, and it is obvious that no pains can have been taken to ascertain the true facts of the case. In these circumstancess it is not surprising that the school attendance officer should have scrupled to deliver the document, which he seems to have dropped in the street, whence it was rescued by a passer-by and served quite unofficially upon the astonished parent. Such slip-shod methods are a vexatious nuisance to the public and a reproach to the authorities concerned.

DEFECTIVE DISCIPLINE.

SHALL SOLDIERING BE A SCHOOL FOR SNOBBERY?

Fortunately, the vast majority of our officers are endowed with common sense—and our Army, as a whole, is not only well-disciplined, but contented. However, there are exceptions—certain commanding officers, instead of leading their men, try to drive them. A discontented soldier is inefficient, and inefficiency is a crime towards the State. Before us we have a card bearing the name of Lt.-Col. Shaw, which reads :—

> Instructions to Non-Commissioned Officers of the 2nd Reserve 5th Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
>
> 1. N.C.O.'s should remember that in a Battalion there are three quite separate and distinct classes: (1) Officers; (2) N.C.O.'s.; (3) Privates.
>
> The distinction between N.C.O.'s and Privates should be as marked as between any other two classes.

We cannot conceive of any more damaging Order. Surely officers and non-commissioned officers should cultivate cordial relations with the men! Once "class" is created, and insisted upon, class hatred is sure to follow. Listen again to the Colonel :—

> 2. No N.C.O. should ever walk out with a Private; he should never drink with a Private, and, so far as is possible, he should not enter a bar where a private is, and should a Private come into a bar where N.C.O.'s are, they should leave as soon as possible, and not expect a Private to do so. In view of the fact that at this station there will be difficulty in the Sergeants, Corporals and Lance-Corporals finding separate accommodation, it is necessary that they should use the same part of the premises, separate from that used by Privates.

Any Londoner knows that in places of public resort—such as restaurants and railway cars—officers and men mingle together upon terms of absolute equality, with no loss of dignity by the officers or of respect towards them on the part of the men.

Let us contrast the "Warwickshires'" instructions with the Discipline Code of the Japanese Army, the second article of which reads as follows :—

> Superiors must not be proud and haughty towards those of lower rank. They must treat those beneath them with kindness and special clemency, so that all may unite as one man in the cause of their country.

As to the wisdom of this code there is no doubt whatever, for throughout the whole of the late Russo-Japanese War only one Japanese soldier was tried by court-martial, whilst the discipline and devotion of the men set an example to the world.

MORE "HANKY"-PANKY.

THE LINEN LURE AND THE LEGAL LETTER.

"Times change and we change with them"—but the British Linen Company, of 112, New Oxford Street, W.C., still cling to their old methods. They are engaged at the moment in sending out another batch of their "Urgent" and "Final" demands for the payment of three-and-sixpences which people do not owe them. A lady reader informs us that, having succumbed to the invitation of the firm to purchase for twopence a sample sideboard cover, she also received nine handkerchiefs, which she was asked to sell for 3s. 6d., being promised in return a present of jewellery. She refused to take on the job, and returned the articles. Nothing more was heard of the matter for seven months, when the firm started to threaten her with legal proceedings for the recovery of the price of the returned linen. Threatened people proverbially live long, and we have advised our correspondent—as we advise any others who may find themselves in the same position—to await developments with composure.

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THE PASSING SHOW

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THE RIGHTS OF WORKMEN.

JUDGE MULLIGAN, K.C., SHARES OUR VIEWS.

Before his Honour Judge Mulligan, K.C., at the Thetford County Court, a firm of manure manufacturers applied for the reduction of a compensation allowance formerly awarded to a labourer who, through an accident with vitriol, had lost an eye while in their employment. Counsel was briefed, as the judge humorously suggested, "to prove that the workman was better with one eye than two." It transpired that the man's improved aspect was due to the acquisition of a glass eye, but unhappily for the employers' case the utmost ingenuity of the optician has not yet contrived to endow the vitreous organ with powers of vision. Moreover, the poor fellow still complained of pains in his head, which may well have been due to the imperfect adjustment of the artificial eye. Undeterred by these considerations, the firm invited the learned Judge to cut down the compensation allowance to 5s. per week, instead of 8s., at which it had lately stood—the broad ground of the application being that the man was now fit to work, and had, in fact, been recently employed in agricultural labour at 14s. a week. Refusing to accede the employers' ungenerous demand, his Honour summed up the position in terms of marked fairness which might well serve as a guide for the adjustment of similar cases. He said:—

> The operation for fitting the glass eye so far as external appearances are concerned is very successful. He can now go back and seek employment, and no longer show his ineligibility by his appearance. I think, however, he is not the man he was at the time of the accident. In the first place he has only one eye, and in the second place he has occasional pains in the head. He is disclassed.

In these terse phrases the whole equity of the case was comprised, and in fixing the compensation allowance at a figure which, together with his present earnings, approximately equalled the maimed workman's original wages, his Honour adopted a course which we have repeatedly urged upon Judges administering compensation law. The victim of an industrial mishap rarely achieves such complete recovery as to be "the man he was at the time of the accident," and his impaired earning power should obviously entitle him to an enduring compensation allowance assessed upon equitable terms. We congratulate Judge Mulligan upon his frank recognition of this principle, and we are equally glad to notice his unsparing denunciation of the "voluntary agreements" by which certain Insurance Companies habitually contrive to "job off" compensation claimants. At the Norwich County Court, his Honour was recently confronted with three such agreements, all of which he declined to register. Expressing his "strong disapproval" of such schemes, the learned Judge observed:

> In nineteen cases out of twenty it is simply a starvation process for the workman. If an Insurance Company want to take advantage of a man, there is no better way than by these agreements.

We are glad to have our repeated warnings thus influentially endorsed.

PITY THE POOR PUBLICAN.

ALL'S FAIR IN PUB AND WAR.

We have been watching patiently to see whether the Licensed Victuallers' Association would move in the matter of billeting allowances. For the life of us we cannot understand why the publican should be expected to board and lodge soldiers at 2s. 3d. a day, whilst the private householder receives 3s. 4½d. Poor publicans—they *do* get it in the neck!

HOW "WAR PICTURES" ARE WORKED UP.

PREPARING FICTITIOUS PHOTOS "FROM THE FRONT."

In a recent issue of one of the picture papers appeared two photographs obviously intended to convey the impression that they were taken at the Front. One is headed "British Soldiers Take Cover Behind the Ruins of a Village," and depicts half-a-dozen riflemen firing from behind a stack of loose bricks, whilst at their rear a wounded comrade reclines upon the ground, half covered with what appears to be a sheet or a table-cloth. This the journal calls "A graphic photograph of fighting on the Continent. The British in their advance find the ruins of a bombarded village very useful as cover from the defending enemy. In the foreground the surgeon is seen bending over a wounded man." As a matter of fact, this photograph was taken in Sussex, within a mile or two of Bognor, and shows a company of the 9th Hants Territorial Regiment going through part of their military training in the neighbourhood of some ruined farm buildings. The men were actually posed for this and other photographs by the enterprising camera man, who motored down from London for the purpose, and who then, presumably, disposed of copies to the paper as actual war photographs! Suspicion should, however, have been aroused in the editorial mind by the fact that the "wounded" man carefully directs his gaze towards the camera, whilst the "surgeon" possesses corporal's stripes!

A photograph on another page of the same issue, entitled "A Quiet Game by the Old Tin Fire," and showing a few soldiers smoking and playing cards in the open, was also taken in the same neighbourhood, on the same occasion, and by the same enterprising gentleman.

We admit the photographs are interesting—as photographs. But we protest against such home-made articles being palmed off upon the public as the genuine thing from the Front. Newspapers that reproduce war pictures should make it their business to verify their genuineness.

NOT PLAYING AT MARBLES.

SOFT—AND ILLITERATE—WORDS FAIL AS WRATH-TURNERS

Two years ago, Messrs. Long, Whitelaw and Cox, then of 181, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., sent out a mass of literature extolling the merits of British and Welsh Marble Quarries preference shares, which they offered for sale under a guarantee from the Managing Director that interest for three years at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum would be paid. Only the first half-year's dividend, to the end of 1913, has been forthcoming to date, and after many complaints from a reader, the following typed letter, which we reproduce exactly as written, has been received:—

> Your letter received on the 7th of February which I was greatly surprised. The shares holders of the above Company has all agreed to wait the short period of three months. The war as made a lot of diffucity to the Company.

This screed bears no signature, but the names "E. J. Evans p.pro D. B. A. Evans" are typed at the foot. Mr. E. J. Evans was the vendor to the Company, and one of its directors, and is presumably the person who guaranteed the three years' dividend. The assertion that "the shares holders has all agreed to wait" is untrue. Long, Whitelaw and Cox have long since vanished from the address from which they planted this rubbish on greenhorns. We warned our readers against the Company at the time the assault was being made on their pockets. The only advice we can now give those who bought the shares is to compel the guarantor to fulfil his obligations, no matter what other "shares holders" may agree to do.

Generous Grants to relatives of Soldiers and Sailors. See page 6.

"JUST TWO WORDS!"

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is the best substitute for mother's milk because Milk is Nature's food for infants—one that cannot be improved on. Therefore

Try NESTLÉ'S MILK first;

it is so easily digested that it suits even the weakest infants.

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Ask your Grocer or Stores Manager how you can send, carriage paid, tins, or a case of
NESTLÉ'S MILK
to the front. Our troops appreciate it immensely.

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. . The . .

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NEW RAMPS FOR OLD.

"DAILY CITIZEN'S" WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

It will be interesting to note the outcome of the proposed reconstruction of Labour Newspapers, Ltd., the company owning the *Daily Citizen*. The directors have managed to persuade the shareholders that it is absolutely necessary to resort to another method of circumventing the recent decision of the Court to the effect that Trade Unions have no power to grant financial support to the paper.

So Labour Newspapers, Ltd., is to transform itself into a Society under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, and is to exchange shares held by any of its Trade Union supporters (if exceeding £200 in nominal value) into transferable loan stock at ½ per cent. interest per annum! Before confirming the scheme on the 27th March, it might be as well if shareholders put some pertinent questions to the autocrats who pose as their servants—in the capacity of directors. We offered some hints on the matter in our issue of 9th January, and would now add the following queries:—

What financial support has the *Daily Citizen* received from (*a*) Trade Unions; (*b*) Social organisations; (*c*) Private individuals?

When was the Committee of Investigation appointed on behalf of the debenture-holders to inquire into the position; when did the Committee meet and what was the nature of its report?

Who are the debenture-holders and what interest—if any—have they received?

What dividends—if any—have the shareholders received and what is the market value of the shares?

What has Labour Newspapers, Ltd., to show in the way of assets for its £200,000 share-capital?

When are the directors going to submit a balance-sheet and profit and loss account for the past year?

Is the new company to start with a clear sheet—that is to say, is Labour Newspapers, Ltd., to be absolutely wiped out and its liabilities with it?

It is one of the many remarkable incidents in the career of the *Daily Citizen* that its proprietors should be led by the nose to follow one will-o'-the-wisp after another. As we showed recently, the paper has been run since its start at a dead loss, and we do not think that the resuscitation will ever bring one penny profit to anyone connected with it—except the Editor and staff. Nevertheless, the proprietors are being jockeyed into accepting a new kind of wastepaper called "loan stock bearing interest at the rate of one-half per centum per annum" for the wastepaper called shares. We decline to believe that the working man is going to allow himself to be made a party to the secret burial of such a company. It is only thus that he will prevent the perpetration of a financial scandal which is without equal in the newspaper world. The irony of calling the new concern an "Industrial and Provident Society" is not the least amazing part of the proposed scheme.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' COMFORTS.

A WONDERFUL SCHEME FOR OUR FIGHTING MEN.

We have been inundated with expressions of appreciation of our scheme to provide, at unprecedentedly cheap rates, parcels of the highest-class comforts to our soldiers and sailors at home and abroad. Every reader taking an interest in the welfare of a fighting man should send, without delay, a postal order for five shillings, in return for which one of these unique parcels will be dispatched, free of charge, through the Queen Alexandra Field Force Fund. In addition, subscriptions are invited for the supply of these welcome parcels to men of the Army and Fleet—it being hoped that funds will be raised sufficient to secure one for every soldier and sailor of the King. Full particulars will be found on another page.

DIRTY DETECTIVE DODGE.

THE "AGENT-PROVOCATEUR" IN FIFESHIRE.

We are perfectly in accord with those who believe that the efficiency of our army is increased by its sobriety, but we run counter to those who would enforce "tee-total" sobriety on everyone, especially when such enforcement is engineered by every form of trick and subterfuge. There appears to be in the Tayport district a Military Early Closing Order which forbids the supplying of intoxicants after six p.m. to the troops. As to the wisdom of such an order, we have nothing to say. We would only voice the old adage, "There are more ways of killing a dog than by choking him with melted butter," and would add, as a corollary, that there are more ways of getting whisky after 6 p.m. than by asking for it at the back-door of a pub.

What we do seriously object to is the fact that police officers should be employed as "agents provocateurs" in their endeavour to obtain a conviction. It is contrary to our national disposition. It is un-Scottish; it is un-British. A Detective-Sergeant Lachlan Carver, of Dunfermline, acting on instructions, recently went to Broughty Castle, masqueraded as a gunner of the Royal Artillery, and, in this garb, obtained a pint of whisky from a local public-house. The detective's evidence was accepted in preference to that of the barman, and a £25 fine was the outcome.

So much for one case, where, by the way, the defendant was his own counsel. In another case the "agent provocateur" ran up against a learned man of the law in Mr. J. L. Anderson. The same Detective-Sergeant Carver brought practically the same evidence as in the case wherein the defendant was fined £25. Mr. Anderson, however, had some stone-stiff obstacles which neither the Sheriff nor the agent-provocateur could surmount. He contended that there was no proof of War Office authorisation of the Order, or that the Brigadier of the district ever made it, and, even if things were otherwise, no offence had been proved since it was not against the Order for a publican to go outside his shop and sell at his back door a bottle of whisky to a soldier. The defendant in this case was acquitted.

In point of fact, it seems to us that Sheriff Armour Hannay, who decided both cases, had no legal right to convict even in the first. Assuming even that the Military Early Closing Order was being exercised in its fullest force, it is an order dealing entirely with the serving of *soldiers*, so far as the 6 p.m. closing time is concerned. Detective-Sergeant Carver was not a soldier, but merely a man masquerading as a soldier, and to serve him at the time stated was no offence.

GOLDER'S GREEN GREED.

CAREFUL COUNCIL SCRAPES THE "SAXPENCES."

The officials of the Hendon Urban District Council may be congratulated upon beating all records in the matter of playing the fool. On February 8th they demanded from tenants at Golder's Green proportional payment of the cost of making up a portion of Hallswells Road, and gave notice that if the demand was not met "forthwith," they would be liable to pay interest at 5 per cent. per annum from that date. On February 27th, one of the tenants forwarded his cheque for the amount demanded—£26 odd—and, by return of post, received application for another 1s. 6d., being interest at 5 per cent. for the 19 days since the demand was made. We are gratified to learn that the tenant has stopped payment of his cheque, has invested the £26 at 5 per cent. interest on his own account, and proposes to keep the Council out of its money until the Millennium, if possible.

A simple and wise precaution! Fill in our Free War Insurance Coupon.

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If you knew of a brand of salmon which you could always rely upon *absolutely*, you would have salmon oftener.

Try "**Sailor**" Slice. "**Sailor**" is the finest cut of the best salmon, caught in season and cooked fresh in *sealed* cans, so that all the delicate salmon flavour and juices are preserved in their integrity.

"**Sailor**" Slice is sold under a £300 guarantee of quality—the guarantee of the packers of the world-famous "Skipper Norwegian Sardines."

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Nd and your grocer's name and address will bring you a half-tin post free if he does not sell it.

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Café au Lait
KAFFAY-O-LAY

NOT an essence or anything of that sort, but simply the finest freshly-roasted Coffee expertly made with *rich full cream milk* which brings out to the full the exquisite natural aroma of the Coffee.

Simply add boiling water—and there at once you have ready to drink the most delicious Coffee you have ever tasted, invigorating, nourishing and sustaining. As no milk or sugar is needed it costs far less than ordinary Coffee and it is more easily and quickly prepared.

Sold in 4d. and 10d. tins by all Grocers. Order a tin to-day, but be sure it is "MILKMAID BRAND" Café au Lait. Large Sample sent free on receipt of name and address of Grocer and 2d. stamps to cover postage.

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Some Dog Owners

is to associate the name of Spratt's with everything connected with dogs.

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CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., House of Commons.

Dear Mr. Long,—I warmly congratulate you upon the tone and temper of your recent parliamentary utterances. Your sympathetic criticism of War Office methods is both just and timely, and to say that your words are calculated "to encourage Germany" is an impudent slur upon your robust patriotism. In particular, I welcome your vigorous efforts on behalf of officers and men whose gallantry in the field has received imperfect recognition. Such cases of injustice as you have instanced are well calculated to sap the spirit of a fighting force, and the thanks of the nation are due to you for your honest and sturdy protest.

John Bull.

To H. Pike Pease, Esq., M.P., House of Commons.

Sir,—A fine opportunity is yours. Your plea that teetotal Tommies should be furnished with some alternative to the Army rum ration has been quite favourably received by the powers that be, and the Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office invites you to name a suitable beverage for the purpose. This you have undertaken to do, and your idea of a good all-round "tipple" is awaited with eager interest by a thirsty world. Please remember that the drink you choose must be a good thirst quencher, light on the stomach, warming in cold weather, cooling in hot weather, invigorating in all weathers, soothing to jaded nerves, and possessed of that peculiar "bite" or "tang" which is essential to the charm of liquid refreshment. Moreover, it must be dead easy to prepare, and, in view of difficulties of transit, a little of it, like the Army it is intended for, must "go a damned long way." I hope your quest may be fruitful, but I need hardly remind you that up till now all drinks fulfilling the foregoing requirements have contained at least a suspicion of alcohol. Rum, eh?

John Bull.

To Admiral Kester, President Germhun Navy League, Berlin.

Dear Ad.,—In view of what has happened to the *Dresden*, I quite agree with what you said, the other day, to the students of Kiel University on the comparative conditions which govern the actions of the British and Germhun navies in the present war, and desire to acknowledge with thanks not only the accuracy of your conclusions but the candour of your admission that Germhuny must not for her own sake be drawn into a battle in which her navy is likely to be defeated. As you carefully pointed out, your countrymen must realise that Britain "would have the opportunity and occasion of dictating terms with her fleet alone when peace came up for discussion." I am writing this to assure the members of your audience, through you, that neither they, nor their wives, nor their sons and daughters, nor their manservants and maidservants, need distress themselves on that account. My friend Tar loves babies, never wilfully upsets perambulators, and has a high respect for bedsteads and a reverence for bathing machines, which preclude any thought in his mind of assembling his Dreadnoughts to bombard them. You are also at liberty to add, with my compliments, that your countrymen need not remove their churches inland, as every time Mr. Tar shoots he will deliberately miss them. It may further console them to know that when Mr. Tar and Mr. Atkins arrive in Berlin together they will refrain from pocket-picking, burglary, rape and arson, as they always conduct themselves as British gentlemen in whatever circumstances they may be placed.

John Bull.

To Sir Laurence N. Guillemard, K.C.B., Chairman of Board of Customs.

Dear Sir Laurence,—One of the latest and most justifiable growls which has reached me concerning the official way of encouraging Mr. Thomas Atkins in the enthusiastic performance of his duty comes from a soldier of the Royal Berks Regiment. A brother at Gibraltar sent him a box of cigarettes, valued at 4s.2d., addressed "Expeditionary Force, c.o. G.P.O., London." Unfortunately he was invalided home and he had to pay 7s. 1d. when the parcel was delivered to him in England. If he had remained in France, fit and well, he would have received the cigarettes free of charge. Why should he be mulcted in this heavy duty for delivery when, wounded in the war service of the country, he is sent home? Am I to understand it is because you can see no further than the hanks of red tape about you? Like some other State departments, that for which you are responsible has no imagination and no elasticity, and so the soldier's cigarettes reach him free of duty while he is a soldier whole and sound in France, but he must either pay duty or you confiscate them when, having suffered his heavy sacrifice, he is invalided to England. As I think this is a thundering and a blundering shame, I strongly protest against British soldiers being victimised by it.

John Bull.

To Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., House of Commons.

Traitor,—Mr. Asquith has let you down lightly over that disgraceful Bremen pamphlet, "Facts about Germany and the War," but it is at the expense of rating you as of no importance. Since it was circulated in neutral countries by German agents, you have characteristically tried to wriggle out of responsibility for it. It was in large part a reprint of your article in an English labour paper. In any case you dipped your pen in the grossest misrepresentations at the expense of the country which pays you £400 a year to serve it. Why should the British people pay £400 a year to men who toy with treachery and flirt with dishonour? In this crisis of your country the well-paid representative of Leicester, dissentient amid the unanimities of a world-wide Empire, might well have sought dignity in retirement. Understand, sir, that he who is not with us is against us; not merely false friend, but traitor, is he who proclaims us in the wrong in the sight of our enemies. This is what you have done and are doing, and is what every British man and British woman worthy of the land in which they live, are bound to resent. Get out!

John Bull.

To You 10 of U12.

Pirates,—*Wellkommen!* Which is the Kultured word for "Welcome!" Understand, however, that in your case the meaning is restricted. I welcome you as captured pirates, I welcome you because you are renegades who must be made to feel that you are nothing better than cut-throats and murderers. I blame my own humanity for allowing you to live. You have not the one redeeming feature of the old-time buccaneers. They at least risked the consequences of their misdeeds. They knew that capture meant certain death. You, on the other hand, are pirates who look for pity, and expect the treatment due to heroes of the sea. If I had my way I would string you up as high as Haman, that your carcases might serve as a warning to your pirate King. As for your skulking Admiral von "Turpitude," who countenances the vilest acts of inhumanity, I would hang him so high that the rooks would build their nest in his whiskers. Thank your lucky stars that I am not Prime Minister, at the head of a Business Government—or this letter would be directed to you in Hell.

John Bull.

Every relative of a Soldier or Sailor should read page 6.

AT LAST!

JOHN BULL: "Good. I'm glad to see you've taken a leaf out of my book at last, George!"

AFTER THE PIRATE, THE PLAGUE.

THE BLACK RAT—THE HUN'S THREAT TO TERRORISE ENGLAND.

By A. G. Hales.

Often when mixing with the large colony in Buenos Aires, which consisted mainly of men trained to the Army and Navy, and of scientific men, and learned professors, I heard mention made of the Black Rat. Not only did this happen when sojourning in the Argentine, but also during my stay in the United States of America and in Germany proper. The mention of the Black Rat always arose out of discussions on the probability of war between England and Germany. The sons of Kaiserland invariably claimed that in a struggle with Great Britain single-handed, the Teutons would not only win, but make Britain a vassal state.

They expressed themselves as having little doubt that they could demolish England and France combined, so great was their faith in the gigantic preparations that had been undertaken sleeplessly night and day since 1871. It was when they came to discuss the possibility of such a combination as Britain, France, Russia and Holland, that the matter of the "Black Rat" invariably cropped up. Strangely enough, I do not think I ever heard a responsible German in any walk of life seriously mention Belgium as a factor of any importance in the struggle which all seemed sure would come. Soldiers, sailors and civilians, newspaper men and politicians, seemed to realise that if such a combination of allies such as has been realised should take place, Germany would not only have to fight for place and power, but for her very existence.

The Teuton's Fear.

The idea uppermost seemed to be that in the event of disaster overtaking their arms, Great Britain would demand the annexation of the Germanic fleet, the confiscation of all Teutonic colonies, and the practical ruin of the whole of Germany's enormous oversea trade, whilst France, Holland, and Russia would for the sake of their own future safety demand the complete destruction of German arsenals and small-arm factories, the confiscation of the whole of the enormous supply of German arms and ammunition, and the utter abolition of the military service system which has been gradually building up in the Fatherland since the period of the great Thirty Years' War.

"No Vulture Like Despair."

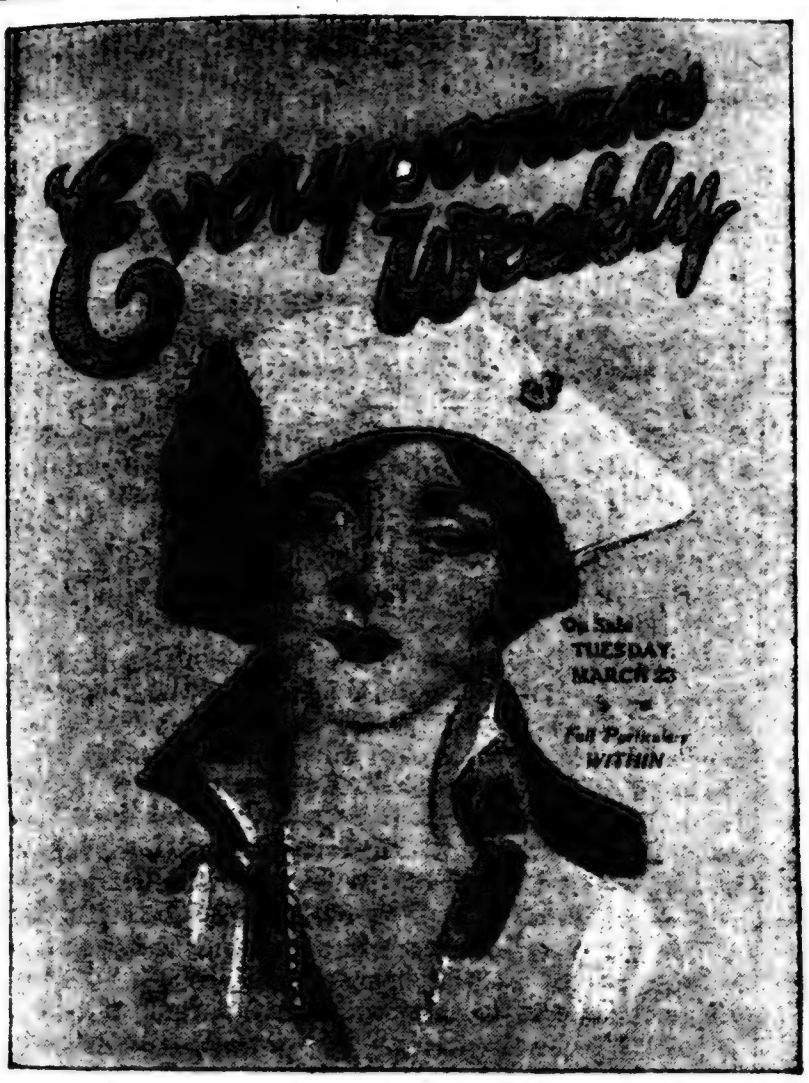
This spelt national extinction, and to prevent it the whole nation, male and female, had been sedulously educated in the belief that any means, however terrible, which might be adopted to obviate such a catastrophe, would be justifiable in the eyes of God and man, and from this belief arose the cult of the "Black Rat," which is best explained by this most tremendous fact, namely, that during the forty years in which Germany has been piling up ammunition on so vast a scale that it beggars anything the world, ancient or modern, has ever conceived possible; whilst the Fatherland has been training her sons to arms until ten million finely trained and superbly equipped soldiers were ready to march under her banners, a school of *scientists* was being evolved to form Germany's last line of defence in case of imminent defeat. Neither money, time, travel nor labour was spared in the evolution of this body of men to whom all Germans look to save them from the last humiliation when their armies are fleeing and their fleet at the bottom of the sea. What the armies and navy fail to do in open warfare, the scientists will attempt to achieve before their military and naval power is completely crushed, and their land stands naked to its foes. To these men the gospel of the "Black Rat," with all the terrors it conveys, is a commonplace thing.

What Is The Black Rat?

Nearly every great plague that has been known to modern times has been spread by migrating Black Rats, which are mainly indigenous to Russia and East Prussia. The grey or brown rat will not carry the plague; if these lighter-coloured rodents are artificially inoculated, or naturally infected by a plague, they either die off immediately or throw it off; they do not carry it onward. The Black Rat of Russia and East Prussia will not succumb to the pestilence, but will carry and spread it wherever it travels, and when infected is more to be dreaded than an armed host in the field. Experiments on an extensive scale to this end have been carried out by the best scientifically equipped brains in the land of "Kultur" and refinement; these men are the skull-and-cross-bone contingent of the Kaiser's varied forces; nothing that hell has spawned or criminal imagination conceived can out-distance or out-reach this phase of "Kultured" abomination, and it might be hard to believe that even the Kaiser's Council would sanction such devilish designs if we had not the evidence before us which this war has graven on the pages of history too deeply for time to obliterate. We know, for facts have proved it, that every form of pillage, arson, and outrage was part of the German military and naval plan of campaign; we know how cities and villages have been sacked and looted, inoffensive peasants shambled, women and children degraded. We know how our own undefended coasts were shelled, our women and children done to death. Never a day passes but we hear of unprotected merchant vessels being piratically attacked by German forces.

Out Heroding Herod.

Knowing all these things, we can easily credit the "Black Rat" theory of scientific Germany; it is their boast that, if the worst comes to the worst for them, they will loose the plague by means of the "Black Rat" in all our seaport towns, in order to destroy our trade and commerce with all neutrals, for no nation will trade with plague-smitten ports. In a word, what they have failed to do by piracy they will seek to accomplish by the plague; it is devilish, monstrous, inhuman, but it is German. Not a vessel, not a row-boat, not a man, should be allowed henceforth during the progress of this war to touch the British coast, near or far, without close and careful scrutiny. It will be futile for apologists to exclaim, after the evil thing has happened, that no modern man could expect the exploitation of such devilish medævalism in the twentieth century; we have proof piled upon proof that no law of God or man has been, or is being, respected by the enemy with whom we are at war. Things have already been done by land and sea by these descendants of the Wallenstein mercenaries which the ordinary mind of to-day would not have accepted as possible eight months ago. If the Germans, even before their power was strained, could outrage the world's sense of decency, as they did a thousand times, what will they not attempt to do in their hour of savage desperation? Half an inch beneath the surface they are Huns, the lineal descendants of the men who wrote the blackest page in the history of all time. We must judge these men by what they have done, and protect ourselves against what they themselves have boasted they will do when they reach the last ditch.



No. 1
NEXT TUESDAY

March 23

The New Weekly for ALL women

ONE PENNY

ALL ABOUT IT
in next week's "JOHN BULL"

When illness threatens a raid reinforce with Bovril

BRITISH TO THE BACKBONE.

S11. B.

Captainal-ties
BY
The Captain.

YOU can't put confidence in'o a pair of scales and weigh it, neither can you tell the merits of a cycle without actually riding it. That's why I offer to send you a 1915 High-Grade 3-speed "Captain" Cycle for

14 DAYS' FREE RIDING TEST.

There is no obligation to purchase. If cycle is no satisfactory, return to me and I refund your money. Over 30 handsome "Captain" models to select from. WRITE NOW for free 200-page Catalogue. Select your model and

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Newest patterns in Metal and Wood, Bedding, Wire Mattresses, Cots, etc. Furniture—Bedroom and general. All goods sent direct from Factory to Home **in Perfectly New Condition.** Send Postcard to-day for Illustrated Price List (post free). I allow **Discount for Cash** or supply goods payable in Monthly Instalments. Established 26 years.
CHARLES RILEY (Desk 16), MOOR STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
(Please mention "John Bull" when writing for lists.)

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—."

IMMEDIATE HELP FOR DEPENDENTS OF OUR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

The object of our present Fund is to afford immediate relief to the dependents of soldiers and sailors now fighting for their country, and who, owing to invidious inquiries and red-tape officialism, are at present stranded for want of money. We do not trouble ourselves about marriage or birth certificates, or clergymen's references, or anything of that kind; but whenever we find the dependent of a soldier or sailor in distress and unable to procure assistance from official funds, we at once afford temporary relief—giving anything from £1 to £5, according to the circumstances of each case. We also, in exceptional circumstances, make grants to civilians suffering from the effects of the war. Every farthing subscribed goes to some deserving person—we gladly defray all expenses.

The following is a synopsis of typical cases relieved during the past week:—

"Unofficial" wife of Reservist who rejoined the Colours on August 4th, had lived with him for four years, and is the mother of his three children. As the man absolutely refuses, although considerable pressure has been brought to bear upon him, to make any allotment of pay, his "wife" and youngsters are quite destitute. The Sheriff of the Scotch city in which the poor woman lives will not grant a decree against him, because he is not domiciled in the Northern Kingdom. As none of the recognised funds would give her any assistance, though she bears a good character, we have come to her aid.

Sapper, returned from the Front, underwent operation to knee—with the result that he is now a cripple. Up to the present he has received no pension. Has been able to get a situation, but as he required clothes and necessaries, we helped.

Naval Reservist has been discharged from the Service, medically unfit, with no pension, and is unable to obtain work. Has wife and three children, so we are trying to tide them over until he is earning again.

For committing a technical military offence, a married man with five children was sentenced to forfeiture of 22 days' pay. This is only one of many cases where an innocent wife and children have been suffering. The soldier, of course, may be punished mentally, but he continues to be supplied with full rations. We have assisted in many cases of a similar character, but are pleased to be able to say that, following a communication which we addressed to the War Office on February 19th, in regard to a particularly distressing instance, an Army Order has been issued, coming into operation as from March 1st, by which the wife of a soldier sentenced to detention with loss of pay for a more or less technical military offence will not lose her separation allowance, though the allotment of her husband's pay will, of course, not come to her during the period of punishment.

Soldier, owing to a rheumatic seizure, overstayed his leave of absence—after being tried by court martial, he was sentenced to detention. His wife's separation allowance ceased—so there were five children to keep on nothing a week. We enabled them to hold out until the new Regulation came into force.

Royal Field Artilleryman was invalided home from the Front and died. Owing to some mistake on the part of the authorities, the foster mother of his two children did not receive separation allowance for them, and so found herself in difficulties. In addition to rendering financial assistance, we straightened out matters with the authorities.

Reservist, at home on leave, contracted gastric catarrh. He was attended by a civilian doctor for eight weeks, during which two escorts were sent for him, but he was too ill to leave his bed. During the whole of the time, although the military authorities had the doctor's report, they refused to accept it. Subsequently a military medical officer was sent to examine the man and confirmed his civilian colleague's certificate. No ration money was allowed during the whole of this illness, and consequently the soldier's wife—having to supply extra nourishment—found herself in grave difficulties.

Private in R. G. A., married, three children, at present stationed in Ireland, is under orders for the Front. The landlord of the cottage in which they live, fearing that he would not get his rent during the absence of the husband, gave the wife written notice to leave "because he wanted the cottage to convert into a coal store." Premises in the immediate neighbourhood being very hard to get, the soldier wrote to us. We rendered a little financial assistance with which matters were put right.

This week we have been the means of assisting many soldiers to get married by Special Licence. The new Army Order which came into force on March 1st, makes it perfectly clear that the wives of soldiers married now will receive separation allowance.

Many postcards from necessitous prisoners of war in Germany have been forwarded to us by readers, and in every case we have written the unfortunate man conveying to him our readers' goodwill and enclosing a money order for the maximum amount allowed by the German authorities.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

H. V. P. (Sydney, N.S.W.), £10; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; S. W., 10s. 3d.; W. W., 1s.; C. H. D., 1s.; "Solomon Moses," £1 1s.; W. T. T., 1s.; J. M., 1s.; J. H. W., 3s. 3½d.; C. P., 2s. 6d.; R. J. T., 2s.; J. J. G. W., 1s.; G. G., 1s.; the Petty Officers of H.M.S. *Seahorse*," £1; H. J. M., 3s.; Mrs. A. E. B., 2 parcels; "The Mother of One of Our Soldiers," 2s.; "Prize-winner," 2s. 6d.; "Pickwick," 2s.; "A Reader," 2s. 6d.; "Rona," 2s. 6d.; W. B. (Adelphi), £2; C. H. K., 1s.; L. A. P., 10s.; Miss D. (Saskatchewan), 2s. 6d.; "J.," 2s.; L. A. H., 1s.; C. F. K. (Scarborough), 10s.; E. S., 1s.; A. S., 6d.; "One of Horatio's despised Scots," 2s. 6d.; C. S. M. (Somerset), 5s.; J. F. H., 6d.; "A Few Friends in Cupar" (per M.M.), 7s. 6d.; R. C., 1s.; "The Children of Constant Reader," 1s.; W. P., 1 dollar; L. A. M., 1s.; M. F. M., 1s.; T. W., 2s. 6d.; H. H., 1s.; The Captain, Ward Room Officers and Engine Room Artificers' Mess of H.M.S. *Cockatrice*, £1 12s. 6d.; Captain, Officers and Crew of the s.s. *Bestwood*, £1 10s.; O. C. L., 2s. 9d.; Ben D. W. H., 1 dollar; E. M., 2s. 6d.; "Rekwah," 6d.; R. W. W., 1s. 4d.; "Yangtsze," 2s. 6d.; "Policeman and His Mate," 6s.; "Uncle Bill," 2s. 6d.; "The Locomotive Boys" (B.B. and C.I. Rly., India), £4 16s.; H. F. W., 2s.; Mrs. C., 6d.; W. E., 5s.; A. E. S., 1s. 1d.; "Nemo," 2s.; K. H. J., 6d.; A. C., 6d.; W. E. F., 2s. 6d.; West Streatham Workmen's Institute, 10s. 6d.; E. A. W., 2s.; H. J. H., 10s.; "Ivy Mary," 3s.

Mr. Alec. A. Taylor, the first prize-winner in our 124th "Bullets" Competition, has sent us £2 10s, whilst Mr. A. H. Goodfellow, the winner of the first prize in the 125th Competition, has forwarded £5.

We have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of £2 1s. from Mr. Frederick A. Whiting, Ensenada, per the British Patriotic Committee of the Argentine Republic. As will be seen from the above list, we have, too, received subscriptions from Canada and India. Such evidence of the goodwill of Britons overseas is doubly welcome just now.

We have also received 2s. 10d. from competitors in our 126th "Bullets" Competition, representing the poundage on postal orders.

Free Grants for Soldiers and Sailors. See page 3.

Send the brave Lads
John Bull's Health & Comfort Parcel

JOHN BULL'S Health and Comfort Parcel will prove in the hour of need a very friend indeed. In the hour of need! We have to think of that when our men are making a tremendous effort to put on the "Double Nelson" that will bring the German butcher down for the final fall. Do *your* duty now, so that victory may come all the quicker.

Well and strong, Jack and Tommy will go through fire and water to win, and we must help to keep them fit. One moment's thought will show you how easily the effectiveness of a soldier or a sailor can be reduced, and how many are the causes that work against him. Cold and damp, fatigue and ear-splitting noise, are everyday conditions that bring on ailments which take the pith out of a man. Toothache, headache, cramp, rheumatism, sore feet, influenza-colds—fancy, if you can, having to fight while suffering such agonies. Remember, doctors and nurses are occupied with more pressing cases. We cannot shield our brave fellows from the shot and shell, but we can and will give them a few real good remedies they can safely use to tide them over bad patches of illness. And, in addition, we will give them one or two things that contribute to their comfort and are in much request. Here is a splendid opportunity of doing a very practical deed.

Give—and give quickly

The essence of giving is to give quickly; every JOHN BULL reader should act at once to make this scheme the huge success it deserves to be. We rely on a great, national response. We have made a good bargain for our readers and for their friends in the Army and Navy. The firms who are supplying the goods have co-operated most generously with us and given their patriotic support to the scheme. The goods have been carefully selected with the view chiefly to supplying very urgent necessaries of which people at home are not so well aware. No amount you can give is too large—but give what you can. Send 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., or the whole 5s. required to pay for one parcel. If you can send more, do so. It is essential that every soldier should get a JOHN BULL Health and Comfort Parcel—that none should go without. This calls for a big effort from our readers. Can you make it? We are certain you can.

How you can help us

If every British soldier and sailor is to receive the JOHN BULL Health and Comfort Parcel, all loyal hearts must join enthusiastically in the good work. Get your friends interested in the scheme. There is gallant work to be done in a hundred ways. At all kinds of social gatherings the hat or the subscription list can be passed round. Who would feel loath to give to such a cause?

We look to the ladies, whose enthusiasm has accomplished so much already, to give this scheme their invaluable aid.

Parcels will be despatched to a certain battalion or to various battalions on request. With every parcel subscribed for, your card or a short written message of good cheer may be enclosed. Send this with your subscription. The letters in reply from the Front will become the most cherishable of mementos in your possession.

John Bull's 7/6 worth for 5/-

BOVRIL Specially packed in a soldier's campaigning jar. A fine strengthener and reviver after hard work or in cold weather.	**THERMOGENE** A great comfort and relief to sufferers from rheumatism, backache and colds, and various kindred ills. A complete packet supplied.	**WRIGHT'S COAL TAR SOAP** A tablet of this well-known soap—refreshing, healing, and protects from infection.
BRYANT & MAY'S SAFETY MATCHES Complete with a novel Service Matchbox Cover which protects the matches and box from damp and hard usage. 12 boxes in specially designed sealed Service Match tin.	**KEPHALDOL** A remarkably successful remedy in cases of influenza. Also invaluable for headache and neuralgia. Has no after effects. Supplied in tabloid form.	**SPHAGNOL** An excellent and proved remedy for sore feet, wounds, and all skin troubles. Antiseptic and easily applied to the tenderest parts.
KEATING'S POWDER This preparation is urgently required by all men who have to "rough it" in trench and camp.	**BLACK CAT CIGARETTES** In addition to a supply of these favourite cigarettes, a new, handy, English-French Dictionary with simple phrases of daily service at the Front.	**PASCALL'S SWEETS** A liberal supply of this well-known firm's BULL'S EYES—the soldiers' favourite sweetmeat. Wholesome, toothsome and warming.

The Queen Alexandra Field Force Fund have arranged to do the work of assembling, packing and despatching the Health and Comfort Parcels. This ensures that your parcel will be cared for and despatched by an officially recognised organisation. All the detail, the trouble, the labour and the expense are thus saved. The soldier gets the benefit by obtaining a bigger parcel of goods.

SEND IN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO-DAY

Decide now to give what you can, and send in your postal order or cheque without delay. We are all ready to go ahead; it is only you we are waiting on. Your giving will prove to the men that you are really thinking of their welfare. This will encourage them, and spur them on to fresh endeavours. So, to-day, enclose your subscription (large or small) with your message, addressed to:—

The Editor, "Soldiers' Comfort,"
"John Bull," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C

NOTE: *When writing, state clearly the soldier's Name, Rank, Regimental Number, and Battalion.*

OUR GREAT FREE WAR INSURANCE.

ALL WAR RISKS COVERED.—HOW TO AVOID THE TROUBLE OF FILLING IN COUPON EVERY WEEK.

We are giving *absolutely free* an insurance which covers you against ZEPPELIN OR OTHER AIR RAIDS, BOMBARDMENT, INVASION, RAID, RIOT, CIVIL COMMOTION, CIVIL WAR, REVOLUTION, REBELLION, BLOCKADE—indeed, every conceivable war risk. We are paying a big premium to the well-known Company, the National Benefit Life and Property Assurance Co., Ltd., of Newgate Street. Many of our readers are filling up coupons not only for themselves but for their wives and families. Anyone can be insured, *irrespective of sex or age*, but, of course, a separate coupon must be filled in for each person. The ordinary fire and accident policy issued by insurance companies does not afford any protection against war risks.

We have endeavoured to make our insurance as simple as possible, and for this reason we shall not bother about any "legal representative" or "next-of-kin." We shall pay the amount of the insurance to the owner of the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else. Be sure to fill in a coupon for every member of your family. You may either fill in the coupon which will be found on page ii. of our cover, which will keep you insured for one week, and must be renewed weekly, or, to avoid the necessity of doing this, you may sign the Newsagent Order form below, which will keep you permanently insured during such period as this Insurance Scheme remains in force.

In respect of any person (*man, woman or child*) who whilst on land and in the British Isles, is killed, or dies within 30 days of receiving injury from any of the events named, we will, subject to the fulfilment of the few simple conditions set out below, pay the sum of **£200**

Should he, or she, in the course of any of these happenings, become permanently totally disabled ... **£100**

Should his, or her, home become directly damaged (whether it be private residence or residence in connection with a shop) or should the contents be damaged, not exceeding **£100**

Loss of one-quarter's rent during rebuilding of damaged home, up to **£25**

Medical fees for injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his or her usual employment for more than three days, up to **£10**

Claims must be received by us within seven days of the injury and must be supported by such evidence as may be required by the Editor, whose decision shall be final upon all questions. No more than one claim can be entertained in respect of any one person or home.

We reserve to ourselves the right to limit our total payments to £15,000, and to pay not more than £5,000 in respect of claims from any one town.

This Insurance scheme applies exclusively to British-born subjects and those of Friendly Powers in the British Isles—*and not to Germans, Hungarians, Austrians or Turks, even though naturalised, nor to Members of His Majesty's Forces on Active Service*—for whom other special provision is made in the manner set out on page 6.

TO AVOID FILLING UP COUPON WEEKLY.

You may, if you are a *regular* and *continuous* reader of JOHN BULL—or decide to become one—sign the following form and hand it to your newsagent, and you will be insured for all the benefits of the scheme as published in each issue as though you had filled in the Coupon weekly.

FORM FOR REGULAR READERS.
TO BE RETAINED BY NEWSAGENT.

To Mr. or Mrs. ..... *Newsagent*

.....

Please deliver JOHN BULL to me regularly until further notice.

Signed.....

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NOTE.—Each member of a family desiring to be insured *must* fill up a separate form.

If you make use of this Newsagent's Form you MUST fill in the Duplicate coupon which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

March 20, 1915.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

Which must be posted to—

The INSURANCE DEPT., JOHN BULL, 93, LONG ACRE, W.C.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

Mr. or Mrs. .....*Newsagent of*

.....

And in the event of my being injured or killed on land within the British Isles, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my Death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Address .....

March 20, 1915.

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Never before have such grace of outline, perfect support and supreme comfort been so wonderfully combined in a moderate priced corset. The beautiful lines of the Models illustrated are designed by Artists in Style and carried out by Corset Tailors of highest skill. Whilst affording the fullest support they are so delightfully flexible that no restriction is placed upon any movement of the body. They are dainty, durable and hygienic.

IN THE VANGUARD OF FASHION.

MODEL M9172.

This superb free-hip design is the work of a High-class Corsetiere; it is beautifully constructed with low bust and deep hips. In Fine White or French Grey Coutil, bound Satin and trimmed Galon Embroidery, and completed by four very reliable Rubber Grip Hose Supporters.

PRICE **5/11** PER PAIR.

MODEL M9174

ENTIRELY BRITISH MADE.

MODEL M9171.

A new design suitable for all slight and medium figures, low in bust and cut with exceptional depth over hips and at back. In Fine White or French Grey Coutil, trimmed dainty Silk Embroidery, and fitted four reliable Hose Supporters with Rubber Studs.

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THE
C.B. EESI-FLEX CORSET

not only adds to the attractive lines of the figure—but by reason of its scientific construction gives strength and support to the hips and abdomen in a common-sense healthy manner.

THE
C.B. EESI-FLEX CORSET.

MODEL M9174.

A very high-grade smart average Model, cut with the new free hip and broad elastic gussets at back. In Fine White Coutil, daintily scalloped with Ribbon at top, and fitted four reliable Hose Supporters.

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Carriage paid to all parts of the United Kingdom.

IMPORTANT LEGAL ACTION OF GREAT PUBLIC INTEREST.

SANDOW'S
Health & Strength Cocoa.

London Action Reflected in Remarkable Letters from the Trenches.

Readers of JOHN BULL, who at this time, perhaps more than ever before, are studying the question of keeping up their health and fitness by the best possible strength and body-building diet, will be particularly interested in a remarkable coincidence whereby the verdict of a Judge of the High Court has been reflected in an astonishing number of letters from the troops in the trenches.

This coincidence is of two-fold public interest because it not only shows clearly which is the finest, most stimulating and most nourishing food-drink in the world, but also affords a valuable lesson on how an entirely British product supplies the best value for money.

Here is an extract from the Daily Press which will recall the important legal action which led to the triumphant vindication of Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa as a British product:

> In the Chancery Division on February 19th, before Mr. Justice Sargant, a motion was heard in which an Injunction was sought by SANDOW'S COCOA AND CHOCOLATE CO., LTD., in an action against a Brighton trader, to restrain him from uttering the libellous statement that this Company's Cocoa and Chocolates are "made in Germany." The Defendant agreed to an Order for a Perpetual Injunction to refrain from such statements, and the motion was treated as the Trial of the action.

PUTTING NEW LIFE INTO OUR SOLDIERS.

How soldiers in the British trenches appreciate Sandow's Cocoa, just as it is appreciated in British homes for its wonderful economy, superb flavour, and strength-building qualities, is shown in the following striking letters from the fighting line—a few out of many thousands.

Rifleman Charles Miles, 1st Battalion K.R.R., C Company, 2nd Division 6th Brigade Expeditionary Force, says:—"Dear Sir,—During the winter months in the trenches we have experienced some very trying weather, both frost and rain.

"My friends sent us a big tin of your famous cocoa. Our section found it a boon, and it seemed to put fresh life into us during the cold hours of the night. Our praises for it cannot be expressed in words. When we come off sentry and have a cupful it puts new life into us.—Yours faithfully (Signed) RIFLEMAN CHARLES MILES."

Private Harold Forder, 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards, British Expeditionary Force:—"Dear Sirs,—I am writing to tell you of the value of your Cocoa to us on Active Service. We have had some bitterly cold weather out here, and it has been very trying to the strongest of constitutions in the trenches, but I have found that your 'Health and Strength' Cocoa is a grand thing for keeping out the cold and strengthening one for the hard work to be done. My wife has forwarded me a regular supply of your Cocoa, and we are able to have a small charcoal fire in the trench, so we often enjoy a mess tinful of hot cocoa. I made some for a comrade one night, who soon passed judgment on it. 'That's thundering good stuff, I'll write home for some,' he said.—Yours, etc., HAROLD FORDER."

Produced by British labour at a British factory, Sandow's Cocoa is the ideal diet for British people. Sandow Chocolate is also a delightful, healthy sweetmeat, pleasing to every palate.

Sandow's Cocoa is sold everywhere, 3d., 4½d., 7½d., 1s. 2½d. If any difficulty in obtaining locally, write direct to Sandow's Cocoa and Chocolate Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.

NOW as always you can obtain one of the famous

WHITELEY CYCLES

upon our wonderful

EASY PAYMENT TERMS.

The "Kildare Club" Record Model. All bright parts thickly plated, black enamelled and lined green, Dunlop Cambridge Tyres, guaranteed 12 months. Roller Lever Brakes, Perry Chain, and Free Wheel.

£3:19:6 or 12 monthly payments of 6/8.

Prompt delivery after first payment.

"Kildare Club" Cycles are British made throughout.

Money returned if not satisfied, Carriage Paid to your door.

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Write for Catalogues and mention "John Bull."

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AT THE BASE
AT HOME—

in fact, wherever man shaves the "STAR" RAZOR will be his trusty and life-long friend.

It has a **FINE BLADE** made of SHEFFIELD STEEL and hollow ground.

NO REPLACEMENTS Required.

Write for Illustrated Booklet.

Our No 1 S.S. Outfit just the thing for ACTIVE SERVICE. In neat Steel Shell case, composition covered & DAMP-PROOF, 6/6 (1 blade), 9/6 (2 blades), post paid, or our Guinea Set which includes a 'Star' Strop & Automatic Stropper, 21/- for business men. Other cases 5/6 to 25/-. MARKT & CO. (London), LTD. (Dept. J.B.), 98,100, Clerkenwell Rd., London, E.C.

REAL RAZOR BLADE GOOD FOR 20 YEARS

CHILDREN'S COUGHS

Bronchitis and Whooping Cough cured by VENO'S, the all-British remedy.

"Too weak to be held in the arms, had to be nursed on a pillow, doctor gave her up as a hopeless case," was Mrs. Langridge's explanation of the little baby girl's condition before being cured of Bronchitis and Whooping Cough by Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. **Mrs Langridge,** who lives at **301, Windham Road, Springbourne Bournemouth,** writes further: "My little girl, when three weeks old, was taken with Bronchitis and Whooping Cough. For five months she suffered terribly from the choking phlegm and a doctor said he had done all he could. Then we tried Veno's. The first dose eased the phlegm and soothed the cough, and now she is quite well and healthy. Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is indeed a life saver."

Miss Langridge, Bournemouth.

AWARDED GRAND PRIX & GOLD MEDAL PARIS HEALTH EXHIBITION, 1910

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the Safest and Surest Remedy for—

COUGHS AND COLDS, BRONCHITIS, WEAK LUNGS, INFLUENZA, CHILDREN'S COUGHS,

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ASTHMA, NASAL CATARRH, OLD AGE COUGHS, BLOOD-SPITTING, BAD BREATHING.

Larger Sizes 1/- and 2/9. The 2/9 size is the most economical. Of all Chemists and Medicine Vendors in all parts of the World.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

A STRIKE IN THE TRENCH.

AN INCIDENT OF THE WAR.

On and off he had been several days in the trenches, and was getting fed-up with it.

The yellow clay was not up to his knees, but near enough to be unpleasant. There was plenty of water about, too. He had tapped a spring which refused to cease its flow, and made his feet infernally cold at times. Still he laboured on—leisurely, and neither showed nor felt any fear of the Germans in his vicinity. There were several just "over the way," so to speak. And when he chose to expose himself outside the shelter of his earthwork—he sometimes caught a glimpse of one. It may seem strange, but on those occasions he was never molested by the enemy. It may have been his utter indifference which in a sense disarmed them.

As has been said, he was getting fed-up with the war—and the trench. More especially with the trench. He had lost a brother in the fight at Mons, and he bitterly resented his death at the hands of so vile an enemy as the Germans. He was not what one would call a sentimental man, but he had a vein of honest brotherly affection in him.

It made him feel mutinous. He wanted to be up and out of the trench and at them. And the more often he caught a glimpse of a fat German face "over the way," the more mutinous he felt. But he shovelled and picked on sullenly, while an idea gradually formed and grew in his somewhat slowly-working mind.

Every evening, before dusk, he would leave his trench. It was a recognised thing that he should do so. His mates would do the same, and retire to quarters more congenial than the clay hole in the ground in which they passed so many laborious hours. Consequently the trench was deserted during the hours of dark. The Germans "over the way" never attempted to occupy it in their absence. It was not even protected with barbed wire. There was a light wooden guard or barrier in front of it. That was all. And at night, as if to tempt or encourage an attack, dim red lanterns were placed along the parapet, clearly marking the position.

There is a limit to the endurance of most men. He was not naturally of a rebellious nature, but he had begun to feel that in his case the limit was almost reached. He had heard of the Glasgow strike. He had thought of those men in the North quibbling and squabbling over a few farthings an hour, and he had thought of his young brother who fell at Mons—for a shilling a day. And there was he labouring in the muddy trench.

He must get up and out and *at* the swine, he thought. He would dig and shovel and pick no more. To hell with orders! To hell with the "old man"!

Hitherto his attitude towards the Huns in his vicinity, outwardly at least, had been consistently indifferent. But all the time a righteous rage had been steadily accumulating in his heart.

He threw down his tools and clambered out of the trench. At that moment the foreman came up.

"'Allo, wot's this mean?" he demanded gruffly.

"It means I've struck," was the retort. "I'm fed-up with digging drainage trenches in England, with them 'Uns lookin' on—from their shop winder. I'm orf to join the Navvies' Battalion an' do a bit fur me country!"

£10 REWARD.

WANTED, the Copy of "JOHN BULL" for March 13th, 1915, bearing on its Cover the Number 72,824.

Any person possessing this copy should apply to THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

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Reduced Facsimile of Tin.

Makes Bright Homes

Try a 1/- tin on some Article of Furniture. You will be delighted.

ASPINALL'S ENAMEL covers more surface, is more durable, and cheaper in use than any other.

SEND FOR COLOUR-CARD TO
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YOU can possess any Humber Cycle on making the first of 15 Equal Monthly Payments

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SHE DARKENED HER GREY HAIR.

A Well-known Lady Darkened Her Grey Hair, and Stimulated its Growth by a Simple Home Process.

She Tells How She Did It.

A well-known society lady who darkened her grey hair by a simple home process made the following statement: "Any lady or gentleman can darken their grey or faded hair, stimulate its growth and make it soft and glossy with this simple recipe, which they can mix at home. To half a pint of water add 1 oz. of bay rum, 1 small box of Orlex Compound, and ½ oz. of glycerine. These ingredients can be purchased at any chemists at very little cost. Apply to the hair every other day until the grey hair is darkened sufficiently, then every two weeks. This mixture relieves scalp troubles and is excellent for dandruff and falling hair. It does not stain the scalp, is not sticky or greasy and does not rub off. It will make a grey-haired person look 10 to 20 years younger."

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No sufferer need despair now that Domigo is within the reach of all. It is a purely vegetable medicine, free from poisonous ingredients, obtained from a wonderful root only found in South Africa. Domigo is now recognised as the greatest specific for cleansing the blood of all disease, no matter whether acquired or inherited. Domigo quickly restores health and strength. Even bad cases of long standing have yielded to the marvellous blood purifying properties of Domigo. A 10 page booklet containing full particulars and testimonials of numerous cures acclaimed by Domigo will be sent FREE on application to The Domigo Chemical Co., Dept. J. B., 165 Aldersgate Street, London E.C., and 40 Pritchard Street, Johannesburg. Also manufacturers of *Domigo Strengthening Food, Domigo Skin Soap, Domigo Pile Pills.* Domigo Anæmia Pills 1/3 & 2/3 box, make pure blood and beautify the complexion.

My Tired Feet Ached for "TIZ"

"How glorious, how grand TIZ makes tired, swollen, sore, perspiring feet feel."

"Just couldn't wait to take my hat off!"

Just take your shoes off and then put those weary, shoe-crinkled, aching, burning corn-pestered, bunion-tortured feet of yours in a TIZ bath. Your toes will wiggle with joy; they'll look up at you and almost talk and then they'll take another dive in that TIZ bath.

When your feet feel like lumps of lead—all tired out—just try TIZ. It's grand it's glorious.

There's nothing like TIZ. It's the only remedy that draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up your feet and cause foot torture.

Get a 1/1½ box of TIZ at any chemists or stores—don't wait. Ah! how glad your feet get. You can wear shoes a size smaller if you desire.

GET YOUR RUPTURE CURED

As this man and thousands of other Men, Women and Children have done.

Mr. John Frankland, 34, Trower Street, Preston, Lancs., writes:—"My son is completely cured and has not worn his truss for three years. He has passed examination by three different doctors and since had to submit to another examination by the Army Doctor, but is quite sound in every way. He has been in the Mounted Territorials for twelve months."

Mr. J. FRANKLAND can now fight for his country, as he is strong and active again and not handicapped by Rupture.

Mr. W. S. Morgan, Co. 2, M. Sgt., N. C. O.'s Mess, Royal Engineers, Aldershot, writes "I thought the treatment would interfere with my duties as a mounted man, but it did not, and I am completely cured."

A GENUINE HOME CURE WITHOUT OPERATION

has been effected in hundreds of cases without the slightest pain, danger, or inconvenience, by the marvellous method perfected by the now famous rupture specialist, Wm. S. Rice. This method has cured cases where at least two operations have failed to cure the rupture. The Rice Method, instead of still further aggravating the case, will

ASSIST NATURE

to repair the broken torn muscles and restore them to their normal condition.

No matter how long you have been ruptured or what you have tried for relief, don't delay,

INVESTIGATE AT ONCE

For the immediate relief and benefit of sufferers from rupture, arrangements have been completed to send Demonstration Free.

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WM. S. RICE, Ltd., 8 & 9, Stonecutter Street, E.C.

Gentlemen,—Please send absolutely free your demonstration and information about the care and cure of Rupture, **with names of people cured in my own district.**

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OPEN LETTER

TO

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AND

— NON-COMPETITORS. —

"THE essence of the art of constructing good 'Bullets' is getting good ideas; ulfilling the rules is the simplest of matters. Inspirations come rarely to the ordinary man, and in order to evolve clever 'Bullets' the brain *must* have some stimulant—in other words, you require something which will suggest witty and original efforts. The stimulant you require is a little book entitled

'BULLETS AND SIMPLETS MADE EASY.'

which is handy for the pocket and is packed with matter from which you can derive smart ideas for any 'example.' This little book is published at the low price of 1/1, post free, and should be in the possession of EVERY Competitor who wants to win. And who does not? The volume is recommended by the Editor of the 'Competitors' Journal,' and this, together with the scores of unsolicited testimonials which have been received, leaves no room for doubt that the book is absolutely essential to all entrants.

"The book is guaranteed to contain hundreds of ideas for every conceivable example.

"Without it a competitor is very much handicapped.

Yours faithfully,

DOUBLE-FIRST."

YOU MAY USE THIS COUPON.

To The Hynes Publishing Co.,
562a, Romford Rd., London, E.

Please forward me by return post free your book "Bullets and Simplets Made Easy," for which I enclose P.O. value 1/1.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

_____

LAYS OF A LOWLY LONDONER.

THE MINE-SWEEPER.

The hour is four o'clock at morn,
  But all is black as night,
The ghostly time before the dawn
  Comes with the creeping light;
And through the snow, the sleet, the hail,
  As wintry as can be,
Sheer in the fierce teeth of the gale
  The trawler puts to sea.

Safely at home in cosy port
  The seamen might remain,
If they were not the British sort,
  True blue in ev'ry vein;
But unto them the duty call
  In clarion accents cried,
So, risking life and limb and all,
  Into the storm they ride.

The coward foe has spread broadcast
  His mines upon the sea,
And some are buoyed and anchored fast,
  And some are floating free;
The harvest that he hopes to reap
  From these his seeds of death,
Is doom decreed upon the deep,
  And murder from beneath.

To sweep the seaway clean and clear
  Of death in fiendish form,
The sailor at the wheel will steer
  Into a night of storm;
He knows each billow may be mined,
  With fate in every flow,
But, strong in love for human-kind,
  He smiles, and dares to go.

He sees, far through the tempest's wrack,
  A partner craft that shows
A gleaming light amid the black,
  And cheerily it glows;
And, when the tardy morning breaks
  In red, reluctant shine,
Each trawler for the other makes,
  Their tackle to combine.

With gear linked up, then side by side,
  They start their day of toil,
To sweep and pluck from out the tide
  A live and dang'rous spoil,
Twin trawlers, chained together by
  Drag-tackle firmly fixed,
Prepared, for Britain, to defy
  The death that lurks betwixt.

One trawler sees the other leap
  And strain upon the line,
Her plunging bows that spurn the deep
  May strike upon a mine;
Yet from the task she does not swerve,
  Her pluck is daily shown,
Her partner will acclaim her nerve—
  But counts not of his own.

Yet by the grim mischance of fate
  The dread thing will occur,
A mine explodes beneath his mate,
  The fire tears into her!
A boom, a shock, a tower of spray—
  Then let the ocean moan
The boat that vanished in the gray—
  The other rides alone.

RICARDO.

Printer's Pie.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same slip, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Pie" in the left-hand top corner.)

"PRESTON HERALD":—
"A working party of ladies meet in the schoolroom every Tuesday afternoon, and are engaged in knitting socks and MAKING SAILORS."

DURHAM POST OFFICE:—
Post mark: "Durham, 7 p.m. 29 FEB."

"GLASGOW NEWS":—
"We confidently rely upon Glasgow's generosity for INCREASING DISTRESS in Poland."

"EVENING NEWS" (letter):—
"We had plenty of FOOD, including fresh meat, COAL, OIL, tea, sugar, etc."

"NEWBURY WEEKLY NEWS" (advertisement):—
"Typist and SHORTHAND clerk wanted."

"WESTERN GAZETTE":—
"Mrs. ——, who had not enjoyed the best of health for several years, passed away unexpectedly on Monday NEXT."

"SOUTH WALES ARGUS" (advertisement):—
"Bob-tail English sheep dog for SALE; FINDER REWARDED."

"AMATEUR GARDENING" (advertisement):—
"Special new rose offers—1 plant 1s. 6d., 6 plants 10s."

"PEOPLE'S FRIEND":—
"He had begun to fear the worst in regard to Ailsa, and was haunted by the dread that she had taken HIS OWN LIFE."

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—

Is the Business Government idea a dream *now*?

Isn't the Government Dye Scheme a deal in the shade?

Are the German submarine "U.'s" proving of much use?

Aren't there too many "gambolling" bells in the West End?

Isn't the *Queen Elizabeth* giving the Turks a "ruff" time?

Can skirts possibly be "fuller" than they have been lately?

Don't you know where to "turn" for money? Try page 36.

Isn't the expected reduction in coal a sure sign of warmer weather?

Do they call it the Office of Works because things are "worked" there?

How can Germany be short of money when she is constantly receiving "checks"?

* * *

There is a boom in bagpipes. We always thought it was the "piping time of *peace*."

* * *

"Turkey Short of Shells," reads a headline. With our Fleet at work, she won't be short long.

* * *

The pen may be mightier than the sword, but that's a poor excuse for pushing one when you might enlist.

* * *

Starch in Germany may only be used in bread. In other words, to stiffen men's backs instead of their "fronts."

* * *

"Does Egg Production Pay?" asks the *Globe*. We know one or two conjurers who make quite a good thing out of it.

Our Great Patriotic Offer. See page 6.

"Go to Sandow"

FOR HEALTH!

Wherever you live the advice of the most successful Health Specialist is at your disposal.

On this page is described how you may follow the practical prescription given in thousands of cases by distinguished doctors all over the world to those who are out of condition, neurasthenic, dyspeptic, "liverish," over-stout, under-developed, etc.

"GO TO SANDOW."

"GO TO SANDOW" is unquestionably a present-day household phrase, and an excellent piece of advice which has been followed by thousands of the "out of health" in every part of the world with quite extraordinary success.

Practically all the London public, from professional and society men and women and even Royalty itself, down to the over-strained City clerk, "go to Sandow's." The Colonial or resident in foreign countries does so when occasion takes him on a visit to England, but even this is not essential, for thousands of men and women every year seek Mr. Sandow's advice through the post and are rid of their ill-health, and learn to secure that glorious, vigorous vitality which "Sandow" knows so surely how to impart.

So world-wide has the scope of the Sandow Institute become that it can boast of clients—formerly almost hopelessly unhealthy, now perfectly strong, virile, and possessing that "youthfulness of health" that is so essential to successfully meet the strain of modern life—in almost every corner of the habitable globe.

To those only familiar with the painfully slow, old-fashioned and uncertain methods of treating everyday ailments, the success of the methods of curing ill-health without medicine, perfected by Mr. Eugen Sandow, is little short of sensational.

At the Sandow Institute itself, and by means of the equally successful treatment by post, thousands of cases of lack of condition, indigestion, dyspepsia, constipation, neurasthenia, and nervous troubles of every description, rheumatism and gout, liver troubles, lung and chest complaints, heart affections, over-stoutness, etc., and, indeed, practically every form of everyday illness and functional derangement, have been completely cured with almost incredible ease and rapidity.

The Sandow treatment does not take up much time. Whether undertaken at the patient's own home or at the famous Institute itself, it need not interfere with the ordinary day's business or pleasure. As it is also quite inexpensive, although thoroughly specialised to meet the individual requirements of the sufferer, it is small wonder that "Go to Sandow for Health" has become a world-famous "prescription."

No one of any age or health condition need hesitate a day longer in writing to Mr. Sandow for his personal advice as to his or her particular health trouble. Not only will Mr. Sandow send, without charge or obligation, a special letter of advice on your case, but also a copy of one of his personal health guides which will tell you fully about the causes and symptoms of your complaint and how you may conveniently and inexpensively adopt the Sandow treatment. To those able to call personally Mr. Sandow is ready to accord a free consultation, examination, and advice.

To obtain the inestimable value of this advice all you need do is to call or post the special form below to Mr. Sandow, when his personal letter to you, together with a copy of the particular health guide dealing with your complaint, will be sent by return and post free.

POSTAL APPLICATION FORM

To Eugen Sandow, The Sandow Institute,
32, St. James's Street, London, S.W

Please send me (free and post paid) a copy of your new book dealing with the cure of.....
(Fill in name of your complaint.)

NAME .....
(State whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, or Title.)

ADDRESS .....

.....

AGE..... OCCUPATION.....

If a letter, giving full particulars of your health trouble, be attached to form, Mr. Sandow will send a personal letter of advice with the book.

JOHN BULL 20-3-15

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and Artists *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* when stamped addressed envelope is attached to the manuscript.

Correspondents are requested not to send original certificates, testimonials, etc., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

Letters *must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* Financial, Insurance, Legal *and* Sporting *inquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, Legal or Sporting Editor, and, except in the case of the last named, must each be accompanied by a postal order for a shilling. All communications should be directed to* 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

T. M. (Sunderland).—Gratified to know that you appreciate our recent article, "The Cry of the Soul." All our correspondents do not, we can assure you; some have descended to abuse about it. Which goes to show that "freethought" is sometimes another word for most uncompromising bigotry.

A. W. S. (West Bromwich).—So you heard that the Kaiser has offered £500 for Horatio Bottomley's head, because he can't stand John Bull's bullets. That is a tale.

S. (Wandsworth).—Being Austrian born, and afflicted with an Austrian name, you must not expect much consideration from employers while the war continues, however British your sympathies may be. The public just now are distrustful of naturalised foreigners, and they have had reason to be.

Mrs. A. W. (Belfast).—Will we allow you to address a letter to Mrs. Pankhurst through our columns? Certainly not, madam. Mrs. Pankhurst is busy with recruiting work, and must not be disturbed.

J. G. (London, S.E.).—1s. postage on a 4½d. tin of cocoa, a 3d. tin of condensed milk, and a copy of John Bull, for a soldier at the Front! Oh, Mr. Hobhouse!

R. H. (West Hampstead).—The person who endeavoured to convince you that our soldiers "tied women and children to the guns" during the South African War, is running the Kaiser close in his effort to break Ananias's record.

J. F. C. (Dovercourt).—Glad you read our war articles to your pupils. That is, indeed, the way to teach the young idea how to shoot.

"Scot" (Edinburgh).—We remember the occasion on which Lord Haldane said he had never failed to appreciate the "great qualities" of Germany. We wonder whether Germany returns the compliment, and appreciates Lord Haldane's "great qualities" as regards gullibility.

J. T. (Newcastle) writes: "I see that every week you gives inflamation to people requiring same." What does J. T. require—"inflamation" of the eye? There are those at 93, Long Acre who could oblige him.

L. M. B. (London, E.C.).—Our recent reference to "The Dying *Citizen*" should, of course, have been "The Dying *Daily Citizen*," which, in the words of some poet or thinker, "dies daily." It has already died out of London, we believe, so far as publishing is concerned.

J. P. (Leytonstone, N.E.).—The offer of the Associated Coal Consumers, Ltd., of five guineas reward "to anyone who can give reliable information concerning the delivery of coal in odd sacks from a van bearing the Association's name on Tuesday, January 19th, 1915," and all under the heading "18 Cwt. Coal Shortage," reads significantly, in view of their recent conviction at Marylebone for delivering short weight.

"Briton."—As you will have seen, the idea of a Navvies' Battalion for trench-digging has been adopted by the War Office.

"Penryn" (Preston).—Ypres is pronounced *Eepr-r-r*; Dixmude, *Dixmude*; Cracow, *Krahkow*; Rheims, *Rahnce*; the German Nietzsche we cannot express in phonetics. Say "neat"—and sneeze.

"D. S. Windle" (Leicester).—The Bull Dog sniffed suspiciously at the chocolate you sent us for examination, so we are forced to the conclusion that the confection is of German make.

"Sigma" (Belfast).—When we occasionally pillory some cleric for withholding full burial rites, it is not because we think that by so doing he is inflicting any injury on the soul of the deceased, but because of the distress it must sometimes cause the friends and relatives of the departed, and as a protest against sacerdotal bigotry.

J. D. (Gillingham) suggests that "X. Y. Z.—an N.C. at the Front"—might apply to Mr. C. B. Fry, Captain of the Training Ship *Mercury*, Hamble, Southampton (which is neither reformatory nor truant ship), on board which his ten-year-old son would receive "an excellent training in any branch of life." We will certainly hand the suggestion on.

"A Reader" (Tufnell Park) writes: "Do you think I ought to enlist? I am married—no children—but the wife says 'No don't.'" That's what the girls always say, isn't it? But who cares?

C. H. M. (London, W.).—The blockade of Germany will put a stop to British traitors supplying copper to the Huns by way of Holland. It may also save them from the hanging they richly deserve.

S. P. (Sunderland).—It is quite true that a great number of sons of the clergy are serving in the field.

J. W. S. (New York).—We don't think much more of the work of our Poet Laureate, Dr. Bridges, than you Yankees appear to. But, with all his faults, we would rather have him than some of the word-jinglers you turn out in the States.

S. H. S. (Johannesburg).—Thanks for sample of vegetable substance you discovered whilst prospecting on the coast, and which "acts like magic in any stomach trouble." But we are no believers in magic, so there's nothin' doin'.

"One of Kitchener's Boys" (Bournemouth) thinks the authorities should permit all men in training to marry, allow their wives separation allowances, and "encourage the men to endeavour to reproduce their kind." We don't think they would require much encouragement. At least, we hope not.

"Barn Choo" (Ramkristopur).—"But it is the 'tone' of your paper that's gone to hell." What's the matter—a touch of the sun, or Indian liver? Take a cooling draught.

J. W. M. G. (Folkestone).—Let the world know what we think of the cant friendliness of the average American? We can't.

F. B. G. (Dartmouth Park, N.W.).—The article on "The Mind of the Clerk," in the *English Review*, accurately describes a certain type of City man which is growing less common day by day, more especially since the war broke out. Your hot indignation almost makes us fancy you must belong to it.

"Bandsman" (Doncaster).—So an infantryman's pay fifty years ago was thirteen pence a day, out of which he had to find messing money, washing, and barrack damages. Soldiers out of debt drew fourpence a day; in debt, one penny. As "Bandsman" truly says, those were days when the girls more often than not had to "stand Sam." That old custom is not yet quite extinct, we fancy.

"Alsibis" (Hampstead, N.W.).—We can no more follow your queer rigmaroles and decidedly unpleasant pamphlet than can our confrère of the *Referee*. Moreover, "doing" does not rhyme with "ruin," nor "Belgium" with "Hun." Don't worry us any more, please; we are busy.

J. R. S. (Port Talbot).—You do not appear to understand the value of military music for recruiting purposes, and the subtle lure of the scarlet, notwithstanding the prevalence of khaki. Go to Kipling, thou slacker, consider his arguments, and be wise.

"Britisher" (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—You think German West Africa, and we think German East Africa, would be the best territory for colonising by our Indian fellow-subjects. We shall have to employ an arbitrator to settle the difference between us.

"Baron" (Bournemouth) tells us the Admiralty are considering an invention to prevent the destruction of our battleships, and that the inventor claims that no ship can be sunk to which it is applied. Inventors invariably make emphatic claims of that sort. We will wait and see.

"Enquirer" is anxious to know why the Master of the Rolls has not yet issued a list of the gentlemen who passed as solicitors at the examination in June last. Is it possible that he has been kidnapped by the Kaiser to advise as to the distribution of Rolls in Germany.

H. J. T. (Calcutta) sends us some hieroglyphics, to be pronounced "Kaiser Narake Janico," which, being interpreted, meaneth "To Hell with the Kaiser!" in Bengali. Kitchener's Army had better learn that phrase. It will provide a link between them and their Indian comrades when they meet at the Front.

D. H. S. (Wimbledon).—You mean well, but we can see no out standing merit in your "Nation's Prayer." The fact that the King and Queen and other notabilities accepted copies does not prove that your lines are of superlative worth.

Have you a relative or friend a Soldier or Sailor? If so, turn to page 6.

"MATELESS CHAFFINCH" (Highgate).—The children born in England of German parents, are British subjects. Children born at sea are British subjects if the ship on which they are born flies the British flag.

B. G. (Stoke Newington).—Back numbers of JOHN BULL are not of much value, except to the owners. Everybody has read them.

"WORRIED" (Helston).—You have nothing to worry about. You appear to be doing your duty to the country as much as you would be were you to enlist.

"REGULAR READER" (Great Yarmouth).—It is highly improbable that Falmouth will ever be bombarded by the Germans or Devizes attacked by aerial craft.

M. C. B. (Glasgow).—Your duty is to communicate at once to the Admiralty your knowledge of the existence of a submarine destroyer.

"INQUISITIVE" (Pontypool).—We have received no complaints concerning the "Blanket Club" run by Greenhalgh Liversidge, of 15, Market Street, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield. We note he says that "Goods are delivered free immediately a share is paid up," but he does not define what is meant by "a share."

"HEATHERSELL" (Aberdeen).—We will willingly, in the special circumstances, insert a short notice in these columns inquiring for your missing brother, if you care to send us particulars.

E. J. P. (Walworth, S.E.).—Sorry your friend was one of Rae's jays. When he returns from the Front he might do worse than take a walk down Praed Street and have a few quiet words with the notorious fee-snatcher.

A. N. (St. John's Wood).—All we can recommend you to do is to watch the advertisements closely. There must be many jobs you might do without the deafness in your right ear being detrimental.

"DISHER" (Halifax) informs us that he is still drinking, like he did in Dublin, and that "this country is mad with teetotal disorganisation." It must be, since it cannot restrain "Disher's" bibulous habits. On another postcard he declares that newspaper advertisements are the key to the spy system—and that he is "*still Drinking.*" Disher will find himself dished if he is not careful,

"UNDECIDED" (Snodland).—Kaiser is pronounced Ki, sir.

E. M. (Liskeard).—The positions advertised by Messrs. Coutts' Colonial Dept., 27, 285, High Holborn, W.C., may be genuine, but the firm ask for substantial fees in advance—a practice we deprecate.

J. P. (Victoria Docks).—Your daughter having been adopted by the West Ham Board of Guardians, you have no legal right to any say in the question of her employment.

A. A. W. (Tunbridge Wells).—Thanks, but we have no need to advertise JOHN BULL in the way you suggest.

PTE. E. O. C. (Salisbury Plain).—Mr. Asquith, on September 14th, agreed to delay the operation of the Home Rule Bill until after the war. On the 18th September the measure received the Royal Assent.

F. J. M. (Lisson Grove).—Spare our blushes, we beseech you.

H. J. H. (Athlone).—We disagree. The trouble is *not* "that men expect telephone girls to have as much patience as their wives," but that telephone girls expect men to have as much patience as their sweethearts.

"WEANOR" (Derbyshire).—What does it matter what the *Performer* or any other paper says, so long as they talk about us?

J. J. G. (Fenchurch Street, E.C.).—No wonder you are ashamed to give your name and full address. If you are British; your suggestions are traitorous. If you are German, there is some excuse for your ignorant malevolence. We have no wish to hear further from you.

"MARIE" (Edinburgh).—If the military in marching past the rev. gentleman's church played the "Cock o' the North" on the bagpipes while he was engaged in prayer, we can understand his feelings.

"BERT" (Hampstead).—"Jim was a salesman, in a West-end store; his position was good, prior to the War; he left a good home, in the usual way; till panic brought about a two-thirds pay. Then came the climax—A week off, no pay; and nothing saved, for a rainy day." Poor unlucky Jim, we *don't* envy him!

T. J. M. (Brighton).—Thanks. Mr. Asquith has many talents, but he evidently knows nothing about the price of coal.

J. P. (Grimsby) suggests arming a number of private steam yachts to hunt German submarines. The idea is already being utilised.

B. L. (Durban) says, "The women of Natal have formed an alliance for the furtherance of British trade, called the Patriotic Trades Advancement Alliance." Hope it will be a success.

"ONE OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE" (Invergordon).—The suggestion is that the "renegades and rogues" of the standing Army should not be allowed to mix with Kitchener's Army, but as you send only half the reference we cannot be sure of the point of the writer's outburst.

"PRO BONO PUB." (Southsea).—So the Hants County Council want a school attendance officer for 25s. a week, do they? Perhaps goods are going cheap in Hants just now.

"HOPE" (Farlestown) suggests we should produce JOHN BULL'S war cartoons in book form. Perhaps, later on.

J. A. F. (Sheffield) says: "I take off my hat to you; you are a man." Not the least doubt he would also do so if we were a woman.

"PRIVATE" (W. Southbourne) complains of the price charged by a laundry for merely *washing* his shirt—to wit, 3d. Peradventure soap has also gone up.

G. C. (Stockport) sends us this advt. from the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*: "Coffin maker wants work, two or three days a week. . . ." The advertiser should apply to the Kaiser.

A. C. (18 Platoon).—The announcement that Germany is inventing Zeppelin submarines which will "drop bombs upward" is certainly worthy of Berlin's Wireless.

E. M. (Crowboro').—Afraid we cannot lash ourselves or anybody else into a fury on your suspicions that the boots of two of the staff of a local hotel have been repaired in Germany since the war.

F. C. (Cobholm) fires at us an alleged joke about an old gentleman and some naturalised sausages. When we have a week to spare we will try to find the joke.

G. B. (Middlesbro').—Messrs. Hansen and Gibb, of Nottingham, must be a long time getting the "three small bales" of brown paper off their hands, for they have been sending out similar equivocal circulars for months past.

A. E. M. (Catford) wants to come to terms with us for 24 verses, all his own. This is verse 1: A stands for Austria, the cause of this awful strife; trying to crush little Servia, with cannon, shot, and knife." What about the fork?

A. D. (Soho).—We fear there is only one way of permanently disposing of your German husband, and that is through either the cemetery or the divorce court. But be careful about the former method.

Miss M. S. D. (Bath).—"We are reading about people going on strike," writes a friend of yours at the Front; "I wonder what they would say if the British Army went on strike." We wonder also.

E. M. (Edinburgh) dreamed that we consented to be nominated M.P. for E. Edinburgh against Mr. Hogge, M.P. This is a world of infinite possibilities.

"PRIVATE" (British Exped. Force).—"Sir,—I wish, through your paper, to thank H.R.H. Prince Mary and the women of England for sending us woollen comforts, which I have received."

"OLD BILL." (E. Ham).—"Little Willie made some iron crosses, gave the Turks some warships and some 'dough'; but just whisper 'Dardanelles,' and he raves 'Ten thousand —— blanks, this crabs the deal. Great Cæsar dot vos so!" *You're* no Shakespeare, anyhow.

W. E. E. (Brynamman).—Richard S. Field, 58, Ludgate Hill, E.C., is another audacious exploiter of human credulity. Keep your money in your pocket and chuck his "lucky stone" rubbish into the fire.

"BIRKETT" (Scarborough).—"I send you a copy of a few verses I have written; you can do anything you like with them." We will.

"ONE MORE REG. READER" (Liverpool).—If you can brush off a thing after it has disappeared, salt to wit, do so; but, *entre nous*, had not you better sign the pledge?

"BLACK WATCH" (Dunkeld).—"Was the battle of the Marne a victory for the Allies and will the troops engaged get an engagement bar for same?" We cannot say; it is as the commanders view it.

R. F. (Sunderland).—If you are helping to make guns at Armstrong Whitworth's, you are serving your country as much as being at the Front. You are helping to blow the Germans to blazes.

F. J. (Dublin).—It was a mean act to open secretly your wife's letter. You should have taken it to her and asked her to open it and show you the contents. Had she refused you could then have formed your own conclusions. You must be a very complacent sort of husband to have allowed the man to enter your house again, especially after having called him a low cad for abusing your hospitality. We have added your 1s. to our War Fund.

(A large number of replies are unavoidably held over.)

Our Free Insurance covers ALL War risks. 30 Claims already paid.

ANOTHER SINGLE-WEEK CONTEST.

NO WAITING

Contest c'oses Friday, March 26

£1,000

FOR ALL-CORRECT FORECAST.

Another **Single-Week** Contest this time—and another huge cash prize offer! The matches selected are the Semi-finals of the English Cup and the League Games as given on the coupon to be played Saturday, March 27th. Being a one-week contest there is one coupon only, so fill it in now and post early. Last day for receiving entries is Friday, March 26th. If you want to earn some cash by your knowledge of football form don't miss this opportunity.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the Cup Ties and League games, to be played on Saturday, March 27th, given on the entrance form on page 2 of our cover. Note the special method of marking your forecasts, as explained on the coupon.

£1,000 FOR ALL-CORRECT COUPON.

The sum of £1,000 will be paid to the competitor sending in an entrance form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given, played to a finish.

Should no entrance form be received giving the whole of the correct results, £250 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows ONE ERROR ONLY. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,000 nor the £250 being won, we shall in any event pay the cash prize of £50 to the sender of the most correct forecasts, even if only 8 or 10.

The competition is one of pure skill and a test of knowledge of football form.

Our elaborate checking arrangements and our special method of marking the coupon safeguard the interests of competitors in every way. The risk of a coupon being overlooked is totally eliminated. Scottish readers may participate in these contests.

COUPON

and Rules on PAGE 2 of COVER.

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE.

Address "John Bull," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Mark envelope "Football Contest No. 19"

The Contest closes Friday, March 26th.

SINGLE-WEEK CONTEST—SEND YOUR ENTRIES NOW.

JOHN BULL ON SENTRY GO.

THE DUKE OF PORTLAND.

"Halt! Who goes there?"

"Friend!"

"Advance, friend, and give the countersign."

"*Civis Britannicus sum*—and down with the Derby!"

"Hallo, my friend, I must take another look at you. Ah, the Duke of Portland! You lately caused a sensation by scratching all your horses entered for the principal races this year. That incident actually arose out of the quite unnecessary Epsom Grand Stand misunderstanding, I am informed; but the racing controversy which you in part originated has now developed into a heated discussion as to whether racing should be continued."

"There is, to me, something altogether abhorrent in the idea of the usual racing festivals at Epsom and elsewhere taking place whilst our gallant troops are offering up life and limb in the trenches."

"I respect the sincerity of your convictions, but think you take an exaggerated view of the case. It seems to me that racing is not entitled to be singled out for more drastic treatment than any other of our national sports and recreations. Consistency is a jewel. Why should racing be stopped, and the theatres and music-halls be allowed to remain open?"

"Racing is associated with betting. The theatre is not."

"But a play is one of the biggest gambles in existence. Anyhow, we will leave the theatre out of it for the moment. Suppose I say that if racing is stopped because it is associated with betting, the Stock Exchange should be closed down for a similar reason? What is speculation but laying and taking the odds?"

"You cannot shake my conviction by such arguments. The idea of a boisterous and frivolous sporting crowd at Epsom on Derby Day, with bookmakers yelling the odds, whilst our heroic Tommies are bleeding in France, is no less than hateful to me."

"But I would not mind betting you that more than half those same Tommies—and not the least courageous of them—would be very well pleased to get leave for the event, to put their shilling on the King's horse, or another which I shall not mention in case you should take it as a tip and be tempted. And they would think none the less of their country for carrying on, nor fight any the worse for the excursion when they got back."

"Oh, I know Tommy is a sport. But that is not my point. I object from the point of view of sentiment."

"Sentiment is a dangerous thing, unless it is kept in check and regulated by commonsense. Now, instead of the sentimental, look at the economic side of the question. Do you realise what it would mean to hundreds, if not thousands, of workers of non-military age or sex if racing is abandoned this year? And, again, do you grasp the effect it might have upon the breeding of blood stock, on which so much depends?"

"You are wasting your breath. I must get on."

"One moment, your Grace. Do you remember how our soldiers cheered, and nearly scared the Boers to death when the victory of the King's horse was announced to them during the South African War?"

"It might have been so. Anyhow, I have taken my decision."

"By being one of the first of his nobles to move in this matter you have, in a sense, put his Majesty in the wrong. The word to stop racing should have come from him, if from anybody. So far, he has not given it. His own horses are still announced to run. The decision of the Jockey Club will be published immediately. I fancy it will disappoint you. Meantime, pass, ill-advised friend. And may all be well."

BRITISH CITIZENSHIP BADGE.

Are you wearing yours? If not, send a postal order for 1s. without delay to JOHN BULL'S Store, Brownlow House, 50-51, High Holborn, W.C. *Civis Britannicus Sum* must be the motto of every Britisher to-day.

First Sunday Picture Newspaper

SUNDAY PICTORIAL

Produced with the Photographic and other Journalistic resources of **THE DAILY MIRROR** behind it, the new paper will contain PAGES AND PAGES OF PICTURES, **all** the news and special features of exceptional interest.

24 FULL PAGES 1d.

LOOK OUT NEXT SUNDAY

Racing Notes.

Since the Summer Meeting, held last June, there has been no racing at Newbury as owing to war exigencies five fixtures have been abandoned. Racing will be resumed there to-day, when DICK DUNN may win the St. Patrick's Steeplechase; BALLYKISTEEN the Moderate Hurdle and GUM SHOE the March Maiden Hurdle. To-morrow (Thursday) USURY looks best for the Grand National Trial Steeplechase; SALVATION can take the Reading Steeplechase and SWEET SUN the Maiden Hurdle.

At Hurst Park, on Friday, the best things appear to be TURBULENCE* for the Spring Hurdle; MASTER-AT-ARMS for the Stanley Steeplechase, and NARCISSE for the Richmond Hurdle. On Saturday TWEEDLEDUM ought to win the Century Steeplechase, PANKATTAN the Priory Hurdle, and PAUL LAMERIE the Hampton Hurdle.

At Haydock Park, on Friday, VILLAGE SCHOOLMASTER for the Friday Selling Hurdle, and RIGOLETTO for the Golbourne Hurdle are the best things; whilst on Saturday VICTOR FELICITAS and WEST should win their races.

With reference to the Lincoln, we must follow our money and go for our old friend,

JARNAC II.,

concerning whom excellent accounts are to hand.

Those who go in for "Bullets" will find "Doublefirst's" little book (published by the Hynes Publishing Co., 562, Romford Road, E.) of considerable assistance. It certainly helps the competitor to get good ideas. It is an excellent shillingsworth.

Anyone desiring to obtain a high-class safety razor at a strictly moderate price can be recommended to try the "Star," full particulars of which will be found upon another page.

A GENUINE CURE

PILES

Hæmorrhoids or Piles are occasioned by the disordered functions of the system: the application of external remedies may alleviate but cannot remove the cause, and patients are often told that a surgical operation is the only cure. A Doctor writes: "'Pylitna' Powders are the best remedy I have hitherto seen, they have cured very bad and chronic cases."

'PYLITNA' POWDERS

A Chemist says: "'Pylitna' Powders are the best remedy I have met with in all my 50 years' experience with doctors."

These powders are taken in a little warm milk or water and are quite harmless. Of all Chemists at 2/9, or from the Proprietors, "Pylitna," GREAT SAFFRON HILL, LONDON.

HARRY APPLETON

Turf Commission Agent,

24, OSWALD STREET, GLASGOW.

129, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

Letter commissions and daily settlements a speciality.

CREDIT ACCOUNTS OPENED.

"JOHN BULL" says: "THE RALING STUD runs straight."

We gave last year, OUTRAM, 25—1, won the LINCOLNSHIRE. TRIANON, 100—6, 2nd for GRAND RATIO AL. CHINA COOK, 8—1, won LIVERPOOL. "IP THE BOSS, —1, won BATTHYANY P. 'PROOF' was sent to "JOHN BULL" days before the events BY A COURAGEOUS OFFER. Post 10d. for the ABOVE FOUR BIG RACE TIPS or 3d. for any "one" Connections scorn defeat. RACE QUITE AT THEIR MERCY. If dissatisfied on receipt of our 'tips,' send back same per return and we will REFUND YOUR MONEY. All at BIG PRICES.—THE RALING STUD (Estab 1899) High Road, Turnham Green, W

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Total Cost 3/3

Start the Spring in "New Clothes" at a total cost of 3/3 only. Money returned in "FULL" if not satisfied. We collect and deliver within 12 miles radius of Charing Cross "Free." Beyond, we pay carriage one way. Write p.c. and our van will call—or 'phone North 260 Our Subscription terms give you many advantages independent of price reduction

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IT COSTS YOU NOTHING,

so sit down and write now. Simply write your name and address and the words "JOHN BULL" on a postcard, and the book will be sent you by return of post in a PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE

CLIENTS AT HOME OR ABROAD, UNABLE TO ATTEND TO WIRES, CAN HAVE THE SYSTEM WORKED FOR THEM BY A COMPETENT STAFF.

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ARE YOU IN THE

FULL GLORY

OF MANLY STRENGTH?

Just ask yourself the question. Have you got the "vim" and "go" that you ought to have? Are you a man in every sense of the word?

You can only answer *No.* You are lacking in energy and nerve force. Dissipation or excesses have undermined you just as the proverbial drop of water pierces the rock. Your vitality is ebbing away. You are in urgent need of a radical remedy to regain your health and manly vigour.

THIS REMEDY IS AT HAND

Electricity, all powerful in its curative properties, just as it is irresistible in its force, will give you back the strength you have lost. It will make a "man" of you again. The "Ajax" Dry Cell Body Battery pours a stream of new life into your weakened body, and **Courage, Ambition, and Energy will live your soul again.** It cures Nervous Debility, Neurasthenia, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Stomach, Liver and Bladder troubles Paralysis, etc., etc.

FREE TO ALL

Sit down right now and write for our illustrated book entitled "Electricity the Road to Health." It is sent free in sealed, plain envelope. It explains the "Ajax" Battery, how "Electricity" cures and gives you good, wholesome advice. A postcard with just your name and address suffices, but write now. AJAX LTD

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Reliable Racing Information!

¶ Sportsmen requiring reliable and perfectly genuine racing information for the flat-racing season should send to me.

¶ I can supply double-star selections from the Wiltshire, Berkshire, and a few of the Newmarket stables.

¶ I only send occasionally, but you may RELY UPON THE EXCELLENCE of my selections

¶ Only genuine sportsmen need send, and I require a written promise to pay me after the race the odds to 2/6 for winners sent.

¶ Send stamped addressed envelope to-day. I have a *Big Special* for next week. Information will be sent to the Editor of "JOHN BULL."

CHARLES STEVENS,

21, VENN ST., CLAPHAM, LONDON, S.W.

A GRAND RECORD AND A GREAT REPUTATION

Sportsmen who are desirous of commencing the Flat-Racing Season with success will do well to observe that this desideratum is to be alone acquired by the application of knowledge and genuine intelligence. The success recorded by "GALE'S SPECIAL" during last season was universally appreciated, and every sportsman who scans this advertisement should take advantage of the offer we are making. Those good sportsmen who have participated in our winning information in the past pronounce it to be absolutely unbeatable, and we shall leave no stone unturned in endeavouring to preserve our popularity and success by disseminating the most accurate and exclusive information, in order to see that

"Gale's Special"

Maintains its Great Reputation.

"GALE'S SPECIAL" is undoubtedly the paper for WINNERS. Our regular patrons seldom have an unsatisfactory week, and to those sportsmen who have been discontented and discouraged by their past operations we unhesitatingly say BACK OUR JUDGMENT.

Next Monday's issue of "GALE'S SPECIAL," published at 2s. 6d., will contain the Editor's final "double" for the "Lincoln" and "National" Handicaps, together with other selections for the current week; Hints to act upon, by "The Spotter"; From Post and Paddock, by "The Admiral"; and some interesting notes by "Centaur," and will be sent POST FREE IN PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE upon receipt of 1s. P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph.

SOUND JUDGMENT AND RELIABLE INFORMATION are the most important factors of success in Turf speculations to-day, and our great reputation maintained for upwards of thirty years for definite and reliable intelligence, combined with straightforward and honourable business transactions with all our subscribers, is a guarantee that sportsmen may approach us with confidence. To those who invest substantially we fearlessly recommend the information we send out on

"Gale's" Primus Wire,

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SERVICE EVER INAUGURATED.

Our most recent success on "GALE'S" PRIMUS WIRE, at the time of writing this advertisement, was recorded at the Manchester Meeting, when all subscribers received:—

Friday, March 5th—

The Village Schoolmaster, 10 to 1 agst, Won.
The Village Schoolmaster, 10 to 1 agst, Won.

The usual price for this SPECIAL PRIMUS WIRE is £25 per message, and in no circumstances whatever is more than one selection ever mentioned. Remember, ONE SELECTION ONLY, THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS, AND INFLUENCE can procure.

The next selection on this "GALE'S" PRIMUS WIRE will be sent from Lincoln on Tuesday, March 23rd, and

As a Special Offer to "JOHN BULL" readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10 instead of the usual charge of £25,

and UNLESS THE SELECTION SENT IS SUCCESSFUL WE GUARANTEE OUR NEXT PRIMUS WIRE FREE OF CHARGE.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"GALE'S SPECIAL,"

Ruskin Buildings, BIRMINGHAM.

Telegraphic Address: "Winners, Birmingham."

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2,846 PRIZES VALUE £1,100 THIS WEEK

10 WAR PRIZES OF £10	10 PRIZES OF £2-10/-
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2,000 OTHER HANDSOME PRIZES

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WHEN KITCHENER STRIKES
FOOD SHORTAGE
WHAT TURKEY DREADS
BREAKING THROUGH
PUNISHING THE PIRATES
WHAT'S YOURS?
BABY'S FIRST BATH
WITHOUT WARNING
TAKING TOO MUCH
MARRIED LIFE
REDUCED TO SILENCE
GIRL WANTED
A CASUAL ACQUAINTANCE
RECEIVING ATTENTION
TAKING THEM O ER
PAMPERED GUESTS
SETTING BAD EXAMPLE
FIRST TRIP
HITTING THE MARK
STOLEN SWEETS
A TOUCHING STORY
TAKEN IN
NOTICE TO QUIT
SURPRISING THE ENEMY
SWEEPING REDUCTIONS
READY TO FIGHT
FEELING SAFE
TOO MANY COOKS
WORKING HARD
A LITTLE MISTAKE

Closing date, Thursday, March 25th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(129) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on opposite page.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny Entry Fee Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This Week's Bullet Coupons will also be found in "Mary Bull," dated March 27th.

Closing date, Thursday, March 25th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(129) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on opposite page.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny Entry Fee Must Accompany this Coupon.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of the above examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example, "SETTING BAD EXAMPLE," and take the letters "N" and "D," using the word "One's" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "NEGLECTING ONE'S DUTY." From the example, "TAKING TOO MUCH," the Bullet, "CAUSES TROUBLE" can be formed Again, if you choose the example "READY TO FIGHT," using the letter "E" as initial for both the first and last word, you can make the Bullet, "EVERYBODY WHO ENLISTS."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used an entry fee of one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

"BULLETS"—THE BEST JUDGED COMPETITION WITH MOST PRIZES.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 129," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left-hand corner of Envelope.

RESULT OF THIS COMPETITION WILL BE FOUND IN OUR ISSUE DATED APRIL 10th.

RESULT OF 126TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:—

Mrs. N. WARNE,
59, Angle Street,
Grove Hill, Middlesbrough.

Example:—CRUSHING THE POOR.
Bullet:—THE "EXISTING" PRICES.

10 WAR PRIZES OF £10:

Mrs. H. BRACE, 4, Ruby Terrace, Coralie Street, Birmingham:
AFTER MARRIAGE—MALE "CARTS" EVERYTHING.
Mr. ANTHONY F. SNELL, 95, Selby Road, Leytonstone, N.E.:
MY WIFE THINKS—NOT AS "INTENDED."
Mr. ALBERT NEAL, 1, Burt Villas, Bexleyheath, Kent:
BROUGHT HOME—THE PUB'S MATCHES.
Mr. WM. BROWN, 172, Hospital Street, Glasgow, S.S.:
WAR RISKS—RECRUITING SERGEANT IGNORES.
Mr. C. H. WATTS, Grange Road, Alloa, N.B.:
AFTER MARRIAGE—"GENERAL" MANAGER REQUIRED.
Mr. W. PARKE, 184, Inchmery Road, Catford, S.E.:
IN DISGUISE—SYMPATHY OFTEN INQUISITIVENESS
Mr. W. H. ABSON, c.o. 60, Eldon Street, Barnsley:
FULL OF FIGHT—TROMBONE—VILLAGE ORCHESTRA.
Mr. R. STEELE, 48, Mayville Avenue, Scarborough:
BROUGHT HOME—BY "ACCIDENT" OFTEN.
Miss FLORENCE HUNT, 4, River Street, Truro, Cornwall:
AFTER MARRIAGE—THEIR "AGREEMENT" TERMINATED.
Mrs. K. E. WILLIAMS, 16, Platt's Crescent, Amblecote, Stourbridge, Worcs.:
THOROUGHLY DISGUSTED—SOCIALIST—THEN LISTENERS.

TEN PRIZES OF £2 10s.

Mrs. T. DAVIS, 61, St. Mary Street, Weymouth:
FULL OF FIGHT—THE MEDICALLY UNFIT.
Mrs. T. J. MATHIAS, 28, Cosmeston Street, Cardiff:
SUBMARINE DANGERS—"NORTH SEA BUBBLE."
Mr. JOHN HY. HEMINGWAY, 179, Sandford Road, Bradford, Yorks.:
FULL OF FIGHT—FORK FINDS ONION.
Mr. ARTHUR C. SOLLITT, 17, Bellefield Avenue, Dundee:
WAKING FATHER—ISN'T CANVASSER'S INTENTIONS.
Miss H. M. SLATER, Laurel Cottage, Highgate, Kendal:
HEAVILY BOMBARDED—BELL—LEARNER'S BIKE.
Mr. G. R. D. BRADFIELD, 258, High Street, Exeter:
FULL OF FIGHT—"GENERAL" IF IRISH.
Mr. P. T. SCULLEY, 23, Balmoral Place, Edinburgh:
SEA OF TROUBLES—UNDERWRITER—RIGHT UNDER.
Mr. E. W. PITTMAN, 44, Clevedon Road, Penge, S.E.:
IMPROVES BY KEEPING—ON PAPER—"SYSTEM."
Mrs. I. SMALL, 63, Wingrove Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne:
IMPROVES BY KEEPING—PACE WITH MEANS.
Mr. W. E. PALMER, 18, Tremaine Road, Anerley, S.E.:
BROUGHT HOME—THIRSTS AFTER TEN.

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BAYLES, G. R., 24, Ridley St., Cramlington, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
BLISS, C. F. (Gunner), 119, 3 Co. K.R.G.A. (T.), Citadel Battery, Dover.
BUNN, GEO., 101, Chirkdale Street, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
DIXON, THOS., 17, College Street, Sheffield.
GLASS, J. C., 23, Swinburne St., Holderness Road, Hull.
JOHNSON, D. A., 211, Latchmere Rd., Lavender Hill, S.W.
JONES, T., 31, Egerton Street, Manchester, S.W.
LEA, A. E., Scotforth Road, Lancaster.
LUNT, ALEX. W., 14, Lonsdale Square, Barnsbury, N.
MCGUIGAN, F., 11, Derby Street, Belfast.
MILES, J. A., 28, Mulkern Road, Upper Holloway, N.
OLIVER, T. W., Rippon's Row, Sunnyside, Tow Law, Durham.
PLANT, H. B. (Mrs.), Cooksland, Seighford, Stafford.
RAWLINGS, R. G., Constitutional Club, Clevedon, Som.
SEDGWICK, M. I. (Mrs.), 46, Eden Street, Saltburn, Yorks.
SMITH, W. (Mrs.), Hough Hotel, Moorsholm, Boosbeck, S.O.
TIZARD, A. E., 74, De Freville Avenue, Cambridge.
TOWSE, L. C., 85, College Street, Cleethorpes.
TREMEER, CHAS. HY., "Haythorne Dene," Thorne Road, Doncaster.
TYLAR, J. A., 23, Davey Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.
VAKE, A. (Mrs.), 18, Railway Road, King's Lynn.
WINKWORTH, H., 15, Jupiter Road, Ipswich.

100 PRIZES WINNERS OF 10s. EACH:

ADAMS, W., SS. Whale Island, Portsmouth.
ALLEN, A., 1, Hampton Park, Redland, Bristol.
ANTHONY, J., 33, Bachelor's Walk, Dublin.
BAILLIE, J. (Driver), 3rd Government (Bde. Coy.), H.D., A.S.C., T.F., 45, Commercial Road, Bedford.
BARR, J. L., Ridgway Road, Farnham, Surrey.
BATEY, J. S. (Pte.), Durham Light Infantry Depot, Newcastle.
BENNETT, A., 74, Connaught Road, Cardiff.
BENNETT, D., 76, Newhaven Road, Leith.
BINNION, E. D., 15, Grosvenor Place, North Shields.
BLAIR, A (Mrs.), 16, Moat Street, Edinburgh.
BOWLES, W., 91, Upper Valley Road, Sheffield.
BRADSHAW, J. W., 48, Over Lane, Belper.
BURNS, J. S., 8, Constitution Terrace, Dundee.
CALLIGHAN, H. E., Stapleford, Nottingham.
CARR, E. J. (Mrs.), 4, Cliff Terrace, Hartlepool.
CHILTON, A. E., 46, Buchanan Street, Stockton-on-Tees.
CLAYTON, H. L., 80, Palgate Lane, Warrington.
COE, C., Daisy Villas, Colham Road, Yiewsley, Middlesex.
COLLINS, W. (Mrs.), Bonzano, Cowper Gardens, Ranelagh, Dublin.
CORNER, M. B., 6, Lonsdale Terrace, Edinburgh.
CORSBIE, H. G., c.o. Miss Hardingham, 19, Apsley Road, Great Yarmouth.
CURTIS, B. G., 21, Craven Gardens, Wimbledon, S.W.
DAVIE, C., 12, Stuart Avenue, Scotstoun, Glasgow.
DAWSON, W., Time Dept., Messrs. Caird and Co., Ltd., Shipyard, Greenock.
DAWSON, A. (Mrs.), Glenfield Cottage, Troon, N.B.
DELAHAYE, W., 38, St. James's Street, Dover.
DOWSON, A. (Miss), Hampton Mill, Stoke Prior, Leominster.
EGERTON, C., 64, Wellesley Buildings, London, N.W.
ELKIN, S., 42, Ricardo Street, Dresden, Stoke-on-Trent.
EYRES, A., 3, Glebe Road, Chapel, Southampton.
FEATHERSTONE, R., 105, Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland.
FINNEGAN, D. (Pte.), Ast. A. Co., A.S.C., Aldershot.
FORSYTHE, E., 4, Caledonia Street, Belfast.
GRANT, J. G., 15, Bartholomew Road, N.W.
GREENHALGH, J., Aysgarth, Batley.
GRIFFITHS, T. H., 6, New Caradoc Street, Port Talbot, Glam.
GUY, W. H., 130, Uttoxeter Old Road, Derby.
HARDY, W., 137, Floyer Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.
HARVEY, T., 36, Melbourne Avenue, Bowes Park, N.
HELLABY, A. A., Mascot, Hillside Crescent, Leigh-on-Sea.
HEWITT, J., 26, Hull Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
HOWES, T. (Councillor), 10, Colville Road, S. Acton, Middlx.
HUBBARD, A., Thorington, Colchester.
HUMPHREY, G., 152, High Street, Dumfries.
JACKSON, E., Edale, Derbyshire.
JAMES, C., 3, Vale Road, Splott, Cardiff.
KELLY, (Mrs.) 20, Helmingham Road, Birkenhead.
KING, G. C., School Gardens, Shrewsbury.
KIRKBY, F., 86, High Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire.
LAMB, R., 83, East Parade, York.
LASLETT, C. (Mrs.), Edina, Aston Gardens, Belfast.
LEECH, W., 245, St. Albans Road, Watford.
LUSK, J., 81, Clerk Street, Edinburgh.

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of J. C. Goodfellow and Son, 63, High Street, Hawick, from Thursday, March 18, and at J. Menzies and Co.'s Bookstall, Railway Station, Hawick, from March 22nd

MACKIE, A., Home Farm, Hartwood, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
MASSIE, A., 74 Canm Street, Walkley, Sheffield.
MATHEWS, J., 21, West Side, Wandsworth Common, S.W.
MEAD, J., 2, East Parade, Southend.
MELROSS, J., 37, Manchester Road, Southport.
MERRONY, G. (Miss), 34, Cambridge Gardens, Hastings.
MILDRED, KATE, 36, Delapole Avenue, Hull.
MILES, F. W., Salt Merchant, 4, Hurst Road, Erdington, B'ham.
MILNE, S., 68, Ainsworth Road, Bury.
MOORE, J., 123, Hindpool Road, Barrow-in-Furness.
MORLEY, E. (Mrs.), 207, Moss Lane East, Manchester.
NEEDHAM, MARION, Arden Lea, Regent Rd., Altrincham.
PARR, G., 100, Town Street, Armley, Leeds.
PRICE, E. (Mrs.), 10, Springfield Road, Exeter.
PRICE, T. F., Hawthorn, Caeracca, Dowlais, Glam.
QUICK, J. W., 5, Edwards Place, Stapleton Road, Bristol.
RAVEN, J., 35, King Edward Road, Coventry
READ, J. (Senr.), Newton Longville, Bletchley.
READ, W., 14, Redruth Street, Rusholme, Manchester.
RICHARDSON, J. W., Sheriff Hutton, York.
RITCHIE, G. (Junr.), 8, Millburn Street, Aberdeen.
ROBERTS, L. (Miss), 37, Villiers Street, Leamington Spa.
ROBINSON, LUCY, 70, Boyton Street, West, Bowling, Bradford, Yorks.
SANDERCOCK, W., Calstock Road, Gunnistake, Tavistock.
SHARP, E. PEARSON, 31, Field Road, Reading
SHEARER, C. J., 21, Montgomerie Street, Ardrossan, Ayrshire.
SHEPHEARD, J., 108, Wilton Street, Devonport.
SMITH, H. E., 151, Manchester Road, Burnley, Lancs.
SMITH, J. (Mrs.), 35, Singer Street, Clydebank, N.B.
SPURR, W., Carleton Road, Pontefract.
STRAIN, G. W. F., Ellerslie, Coupar Angus, Perthshire.
TAYLOR, C., 386, Foleshill Road, Coventry.
THOMAS, M., 705, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich.
TOWNE, F. (Mrs.), 8, Hollingbury Road, Brighton.
TREDGOLD, E., 42, Fox Lane, Altofts, Yorkshire.
TURNER, A. E., Carley View, Crozier Street, Sunderland.
WALLIS, R. H., 62, Patmos Road, Brixton, S.W.
WATTS, T. G., 49, Comer Road, Worcester.
WHITING, W. (Gunner), 2nd Mon. Battery, Cambridge.
WHITE, A. F., 109, New Street, Gloucester.
WHITELEY, J. R., 35, Park Grove, Barnsley, Yorks.
WILKINSON, D. (Miss), 168, Cunliffe Road, Blackpool.
WILLIAMS, H., 167, Great Lister Street, Birmingham.
WILLIAMS, W. S., 28, Cyfarthfa Lane, Merthyr Tydfil.
WILSON, J. J., 11, Glen Road, York.
WITHER, M. W., 144a, Brownlow Hill, Liverpool.
WOTHERSPOON, C., Ennerdale, Elm Road, Sidcup.

"BULLETS"
Prize List Eclipses all Others!

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. A careful study of the winning efforts from week to week will also indicate the standard of merit to be attained. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 36, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed——— & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, March 25th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

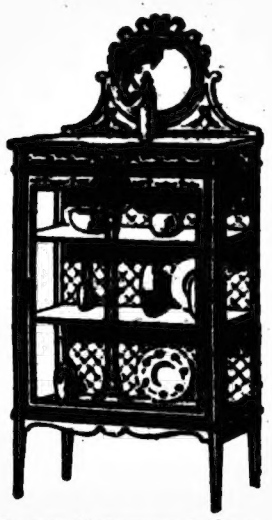
7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they considered sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of all Cash and other Prize-Winners in the above Competition can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull" and in the "Competitors' Journal."

Fumed Oak Bureau, 2 ft. 2 in. wide, 3 ft. 6 in. high, 9 in. deep

£1 1s. 0d.



Dainty Mahogany Cabinet, hand decorated and lined with silk damask, 6 ft. high, 2 ft. 6 in. wide.

£4 4s. 0d.

Little Johnnie

—buys much more at the "Midland"

Come and see for yourself how much further every "John Bradbury" goes, when you get your furniture at the "Midland."

Walk round the galleries and showrooms where you have over **£100,000** worth of superb furniture to choose from. Notice the plainly marked prices.

Compare them with what other firms charge. You will then realise the enormous advantage of buying from actual manufacturers and so saving the extra middlemen's profit. Money—**your** money—does buy more at the "Midland" than anywhere else.

Write for the "Midland" Book of Furniture

It contains over 1,000 photographs actually taken inside the "Midland" Salons, among the £100,000 worth of superb furniture now on view. And you have only to examine the prices critically to discover that there's not a firm in London that can *touch* the "Midland" for VALUE.

Handsome Bedroom Suite designed on Sheraton lines. Carefully made of Mahogany, inlaid with satinwood and ebony. Comprises a 4-ft. Wardrobe, with shaped bevelled mirror in front, and large drawer in lower part; 3 ft. 6 in. Dressing Table with large mirror, 3 ft. 6 in. Washstand with marble top and back, and two Cane Chairs.

£14 14s. 0d.

Ideal Terms

(Town or Country).

Worth.	Per Mth.	Worth.	Per Mth.
£10..£8	6 0	£50 .. 1	8 0
£20.. 0	11 0	£100.. 2	5 0
£30.. 0	17 0	£2.0.. 4	10 0
£40.. 1	5 0	£500..11	5 0

Larger amounts pro rata.

10% Discount for Cash

Rail Fares Paid

Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 and over.

Country Orders

packed free of charge and forwarded carriage paid.

Free Life and Fire Insurance

The "Midland" charge nothing for credit—no interest—nothing beyond the plainly marked prices on each article.

Customers can also obtain free insurance policies whereby **all furniture purchased on Ideal Terms becomes the absolute property of the wife** in the event of the death of the purchaser. **All furniture** thus purchased is also **insured against fire free.**

Charming Writing Bureau in Sheraton style, well made of Mahogany, inlaid with shell design in satinwood. Fitted for stationery, etc.

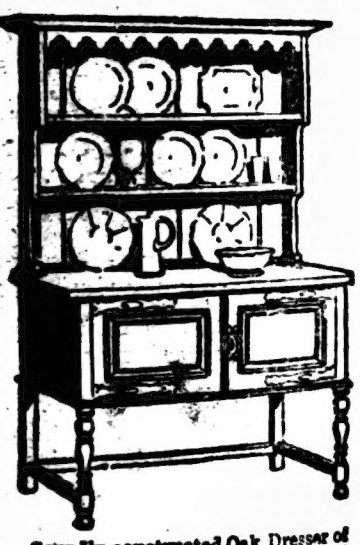
£2 2s. 0d.

An exceptionally fine Sideboard, designed in the style of the Jacobean period. Soundly constructed of oak, and very carefully finished in every detail.

£5 18s. 6d.

An exceedingly comfortable Easy Chair, double sprung, sumptuously upholstered and covered in art tapestry to customer's choice.

£2 15s. 0d.



Soundly constructed Oak Dresser of quaint design, with roomy cup oard in the lower part, and oxydised hinges and fittings. Finished in any shade desired.

£3 10s. 0d.

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies,

15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station, 1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 8. Saturdays—9 till 1.

Printed and Published for the Proprietors (John Bull, Ltd.), by Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C. Agents for the Colonies—Gordon and Gotch, Ltd., London, Australia, Canada, etc. South Africa—Central News Agency, Ltd. Also Imperial News Co., Ltd., Canada. All Editorial Communications must be addressed to the Editor at 93, Long Acre, and applications for Advertisement Space in "John Bull" must be made to Messrs. Odhams Limited (Advertisement Department), 93-94, Long Acre, London, W.C. Telephone: Gerrard 2595.